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OAG: Crisostomo suspect in killing of woman in 2006. PAGE 3

CHC short on 'experienced' nurses

» Hospital incurs over 2K hours of OT monthly

» Corporation opens up hiring in the Philippines

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board officials expressed alarm yesterday upon learning that the hospital's nursing department has the most number of concerns identified in the "plan of correction" due for submission to the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for its upcoming resurvey visit in October.

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Rota mayor wants eight latte stones transferred to new site

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Historic Preservation Office review board have expressed opposition to a planned transfer of some historic latte stones on Rota to a new site, as requested by the island's mayor, Melchor Mendiola.

Saipan Tribune learned that Mendiola had asked for the relocation of eight latte stone to a new site as a means to boost tourism on the island.

The proposal was initially opposed by the HPO review board during its meeting last week.

On July 18, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs resident director for Rota Henry Atalig notified the HPO about the mayor's intention to transfer the artifacts.

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Gov. Eloy S. Inos, third from right, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), third from left, and Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, right, lead the ceremonial shoveling of dirt to kick off the start of construction for a new traffic signal system at the intersection of Beach Road and Tun Segundo Road in Chalan Kanoa, at a groundbreaking yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

New traffic light project in CK breaks ground

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Motorists and pedestrians may begin benefiting from a new traffic signal system at the intersection of Beach Road and Tun Segundo Road in Chalan Kanoa by May 2014, government officials led by Gov. Eloy S. Inos and contractor GPPC Inc. said at yesterday's groundbreaking for the almost $950,000 project.

Because of the huge crowd of dignitaries present, two batches of ceremonial shoveling of dirt to kick off the project had to be done.

DPW Secretary Martin Sablan and DPW Highway administrator and engineer Sonya Pangelinan Dancoe said this would be a state-of-the-art traffic signal system, more advanced than the existing systems on island that are also being replaced.

They said the project will improve traffic flow and safety in the area.

"This is a long-awaited project, and we are looking forward to its completion,"

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Saipan's cable car plan may finally take off

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Designer Heinz Staffler and architect Herman Cabrera's longtime plan of building a cable car that takes passengers from Sugar King Park in Garapan to the apex of Mount Tapochau in less than 10 minutes may finally get off the ground, Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday.

If this plan materializes, cable car may well become one of the must-see attractions on Saipan.

Cable car is a transportation system that typically travels up and down a mountain in which cabins are suspended on a continuous moving cable driven by a motor at one end of the route.

"It looks like it's a very good project. I think financing is pretty much ready," the

See CABLE on Page 4

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you support increasing taxes on some consumer products as a means to raise funds for the Commonwealth Health Center?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

33 days to go before the start of the new fiscal year

INSIDE

NATION

Dramatic new photos show the Boston Marathon bombing suspect's surrender. ➤ PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE

Did Taylor Swift really utter an expletive to Selena Gomez at the MTV Video Music Awards?

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Local

Inos spells out concerns in Senate, House budget bills

By Haidee V. Eugenio
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos spelled out yesterday his specific concerns on the Senate and House of Representatives' versions of the $123.4-million budget bill, including a proposed return to a centralized government utility account and giving the governor authority to hire either 25 or 75 additional full-time equivalent posts when the need arises. He had asked for 100 extra FTEs.

But the governor said the Senate and House differences over the fiscal year 2014 budget "are not too significant."

Moreover, he believes that the chance of having a budget passed on time this year is "a lot better" compared to previous years.

"We do have some concerns and we like them to be addressed. But again, let's follow the legislative process. They would have to do what they have to do and I hope they do the right thing," the governor said in an interview at yesterday's groundbreaking for a new traffic signal system in Chalan Kanoa.

He said he has communicated his concerns to the Legislature and "we hope that they heed those recommendations."

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) separately said yesterday that although the Senate had hoped that the budget bill will be approved by the House, "we are not disappointed that they are working on modifying and amending the current proposal."

» Senate president: We are prepared to work with House

"I have communicated to the House that the Senate is prepared to appoint the necessary committee to work together so that the process can proceed proficiently," Torres said.

Torres also said "it appears that the House has reasonable reservations relating to the Marianas Visitors Authority's budget and the increase of employees for the administration."

"These were the most objected provisions by the Senate which narrowly passed," Torres added.

The Senate further slashed by $200,000 the budget for MVA, something that the House said is counterproductive when the CNMI is trying to improve tourism marketing and promotion, among other things.

The House rejected on Tuesday the Senate's substitute version of the House budget bill, effectively sending the spending measure into a six-member conference committee—three each from the House and Senate.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) immediately appointed three House conferees, while Torres will appoint the Senate conferees today.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and other members said they look forward to working with the Senate to pass a balanced budget on time.

Torres said the Senate also wants the same.

"It is essential that we work cohesively to achieve a balanced budget [that] can maximize our government output, given our limited resources and the current NMI Retirement Fund's predicament. This remains the fundamental interest of the Senate and we are certain that this is shared by the House of Representatives," he added.

Inos

'Workable'

The governor said he looks forward to a complete budget package that is "workable."

"It's very difficult to adopt a budget at the Legislature and expect the Executive Branch to implement things that may not be possible because of certain restrictions at a time when the amount of money is so small that I think maximum flexibility should be given to all departments and activities so that we can carry [out] our programs and provide services to the public with the minimum amount of funds that's available. But that would require greater flexibility on the part of the program manager and I hope they will take that into consideration when they address the budget," Inos said.

He said he is not okay with the Senate proposal to once again centralize the government's utility account, except for some agencies such as the Public School System and Northern Marianas College.

The governor submitted a budget that reflects a decentralized government utility account "so that we can have accountability" on the part of individual departments.

A centralized budget, he said, will once again pose a challenge to Finance and the Office of Management and Budget that have to figure out where to get the money from for a centralized budget.

"It's very difficult for us to keep monitoring but with a decentralized [account], we put the responsibility on the user, to make sure they minimize [energy consumption] and more efficient [use]," he said.

When asked whether he sees this Senate proposal to centralize anew the government utility account as a bargaining chip since the Senate gave the governor the flexibility to hire 75 FTEs, much more than the 25 the House approved, the governor said, "It's not."

FTE pool

He reiterated that the FTE pool is one the flexibilities that the administration wants.

"The normal budget thing would be for us to include the vacant FTEs and not a lot money for it. So it's pretty much the same thing. All we're doing is we're collecting all the vacant FTEs from all the departments, put them in a pool, no funding is provided, and then if there's a critical need to fill a position somewhere, we pull it from that pool and then we go and look for funds to be able to fund that. And I think that's a better way of managing it. But is it a bargaining chip? No," the governor told *Saipan Tribune.*

Inos said without the FTE pool, the CNMI would go back to its old problems wherein it couldn't respond to emergency needs for personnel.

"I don't know what's in their thinking. It's an FTE, that's all. We're not asking for any dollar associated [with it] because we don't know if we'll be able to fill it. But if and when there's a need to fill it, then we have an FTE. Right now, most of the positions, even if they're needed, they cannot be filled because there's no approved FTEs even though the money is there. With this system, you would have the [FTE] pool and it's pretty controlled. I think it's a better way of managing the personnel," he added.

Differences

The House Ways and Means Committee chair hopes to meet as soon as possible with their Senate counterparts, considering that the time is ticking away.

There's barely a month left before the Sept. 30 deadline to pass and sign a new budget or the government will shut down starting on Oct. 1.

Conferees from the House and Senate are tasked to come up with a "compromise" version of the budget bill.

The Senate also reinstated some House cuts—$2 million in Department of Public Lands budget for homestead projects mostly on Rota and Tinian, along with a $229,000 budget for Rota utilities.

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) said yesterday that she will be among the three Senate conferees. She said the other two will be from Saipan and Tinian.

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE
Bank of Hawaii is once again a hole-in-one sponsor for the upcoming Docomo Pacific Golf Classic. Accepting the donation are Docomo Pacific's James Nelson and Pauline Johnson from John Sheather, senior vice president of Bank of Hawaii. The tournament will be held on Saturday, Aug. 31, at the Mariana Country Club.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

$9.06M refund checks issued to over 1,500 members

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Majority of active members who decided to withdraw their contributions from the government's pension program have received the initial disbursement approved by the federal court, based on the records of the NMI Retirement Fund.

Acting Fund administrator Lillian M. Pangelinan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that $9.06 million of the $10 million approved by the court for refunds has already been disbursed as of yesterday.

The Fund started distributing refund checks on Aug. 12. Amounts provided to members represent only 23 percent of their entire contributions.

The remainder of the members' contributions will be issued out after the global settlement that's currently pending in court, depending on the final court order.

The Fund recorded about 1,600 refund applications received as of Aug. 12.

Yesterday, Pangelinan said that almost all applicants have been issued their checks.

"A total of 1,505 P.L. 17-82 applicants have received $9.06 million of the $10 million pursuant to the settlement agreement," she said.

Of these 1,505 members, a big bulk are Saipan members totaling 1,191. On Tinian, 131 members got their refunds; on Rota, 183 members got theirs.

All those who received the pro-rata share from the $10 million disbursement are members who elected to terminate their membership in the program and who had filed the necessary waivers with the agency. The filing of waivers continues as disbursement will last until all members get their money.

Saipan Tribune was told that members have the option to have their money be deposited on their account or through check disbursements.

The Fund earlier clarified that any interest earned by members on their employee contributions is not the responsibility of the pension agency but by the government, which will pay for the amount.

As of June 30, 2013, the value of the Fund's portfolio was at $172.2 million, based on unaudited figures.

Continued detention of Guam ex-convict OK'd

U. S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered yesterday the continued detention of Jesus S. Palacios, a Guam ex-convict who was indicted on Saipan for alleged possession of two guns and 27 bullets.

At a detention hearing, Manglona determined that the U.S. government was able to prove that Palacios poses a threat and danger to the community.

Manglona denied court-appointed counsel Mark Scoggins' request to release his client, Palacios, to a third-party custodian.

The defendant was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Assistant U.S. attorney Rami Badawy moved for the continued detention of Palacios.

The indictment charged the 52-year-old Palacios with three counts of felon in possession of firearm and/or ammunition, and three counts of unlawful use of a controlled substance in possession of firearm and/or ammunition.

Police arrested Palacios in April 2013 for allegedly beating up his wife in front of their child and pointing a gun at her head.

Police said that Palacios was arrested in Guam in 1997 and charged with murder, manslaughter, and possession of a gun without an ID. The defendant pleaded guilty to manslaughter. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

OAG says Crisostomo also suspect in killing of woman in 2006

IN ONGOING JURY TRIAL OF EX-REP. JUAN TENORIO

Prosecution rests; defense calls father of alleged victim

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defense counsel Robert T. Torres called yesterday as its first witness the father of the girl who was allegedly sexually abused by former lawmaker Juan I. Tenorio.

Torres presented the defense's witness shortly after the prosecution rested the government's case after calling in four witnesses, including the alleged victim who is now 14 years old.

The father testified how he had an "encounter" with Tenorio when his daughter told him that Tenorio touched her in 2010. The father said that Tenorio tried to explain to him what had happened.

"I overreacted, I was upset," the father said, adding that he shoved Tenorio away.

The father said he shouted in Chamorro "What was going on! What was going on!" as he proceeded to his bedroom and started packing up. He said he instructed his daughter and two other children to start packing up their things.

The father said after that "encounter" he never discussed the matter with his daughter and Tenorio.

When asked why he did not tell the mother of the girl about the incident, the father responded that he was afraid that she would "do the wrong way" and take their children from him.

The father said he and his former wife don't get along. He said his former wife would like to "bring small things and over blow it."

Torres is expected to continue his direct examination of the father today, Thursday, at 9am.

Assistant attorneys general Chemere McField and Margo Brown rested the government's case yesterday after calling in their fourth witness, Division of Youth Services investigator Julian Camacho.

The girl testified on Tuesday that Tenorio massaged her and then touched her privates in 2010 when she was just 11 years old.

The girl said she told her father about the incident but disclosed the matter to her mother only in December 2012.

It was the mother who reported the alleged sexual abuse to the Department of Public Safety, DYS, and Office of the Attorney General.

The 64-year-old Tenorio is on trial on charges of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

IN LATEST EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Inos cites CHC's improving finances

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s financial condition has improved but not yet enough to maintain adequate infrastructure, equipment and personnel, even as he extended anew yesterday the state of emergency declaration for CHC.

He also said that CHC management has improved but it is still incomplete and unstable because of continued lack of a chief executive officer. This may thwart the corporation's ability to meet federal requirements.

The governor said a final decision on CHC's eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid payments has not been rendered, and steps are still needed to be taken to meet federal requirements or it could lose Medicare and Medicaid funding.

Such steps include the hiring of key medical personnel, the acquisition of medical equipment and supplies, and specified training for CHC staff.

CHC also continues to be in arrears in its utility payments.

The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services notified CHC in 2012 that due to deficiencies in CHC operations and infrastructure, CHC will lose its eligibility to receive Medicare and Medicaid payments. CMS, however, gave a temporary reprieve to CHC.

Both CHC and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. have been under a state of emergency, the declarations for which have been extended every month.

Early this month, the governor said he is poised to lift the emergency declaration for CHC in early fiscal year 2014, citing improvements in its revenue collection and strides in taking care of immediate needs such as in the area of pharmaceuticals and professional service needs.

Executive orders on CHC and CUC state of emergency suspend applicable procurement regulations and allow for reprogramming of funds to meet these agencies' emergency needs.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has revealed that Joseph A. Crisostomo, who is facing charges in the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero, is also a suspect in the killing of a woman at Laulau Beach in 2006.

» Prosecutor cites same pattern, manner of killing Romero, Chen

Assistant attorney general James B. McAllister disclosed details in court documents on how Bao Ying Chen, also known as Abao, was kidnapped and killed in a pattern similar to that of Romero: the use of a rented car and via asphyxiation.

Citing multiple sources, *Saipan Tribune* ran a story on Feb. 26, 2013, about Crisostomo being linked by authorities to Chen's murder.

McAllister filed in Superior Court on Tuesday afternoon a notice of intent to introduce evidence at trial of Crisostomo's other "crimes, wrongs, or acts."

Attorney Janet King, counsel for Crisostomo, told *Saipan Tribune* that they have until Friday, Aug. 30, to file an opposition to the government's motion.

In the two-page notice, McAllister said that, on Nov. 23, 2006, in the early morning hours after smoking crystal methamphetamine or "ice," Crisostomo used a Toyota sedan rented from Islander Rent-A-Car to kidnap, rob, and murder Chen via asphyxiation.

The prosecutor said that Abao's body was found lying face down in an uninhabited area.

McAllister said that prior to the incident, Crisostomo left his acquaintance at a nearby poker arcade for several hours.

"After the crime, defendant was seen in possession of Abao's cell phone and other personal items inside the rental vehicle," he said.

McAllister disclosed that Crisostomo cleaned the interior of the vehicle and had his acquaintance return the car to Islander Rent-A-Car.

The prosecutor added that Crisostomo lied to police about the incident.

Two fishermen found the lifeless body of a woman along the shoreline of Laulau Beach in the afternoon of Nov. 23, 2006.

Two weeks later, police identified the woman through her fingerprint record as 41-year-old Chen, wife of real estate broker Samuel Rayburn.

Bao Ying Chen

An autopsy determined that Chen died of asphyxiation by drowning.

In Romero's case, Dr. Aurelio Espinola ruled that his autopsy showed that Romero died as a result of asphyxia due to strangulation.

Police detectives seized a Toyota Corolla from Islander Rent-A-Car, which was rented out on Feb. 3, 2012, and was returned on Feb. 5, 2012.

Investigators learned that it was the same car that Romero later boarded, believing it was a taxicab, near her house in Garapan in the early morning of Feb. 5, 2012.

On Feb. 7, 2012, Federal Bureau of Investigation agents found the lifeless body of Romero at the abandoned La Fiesta Mall in San Roque/As Matuis.

A little over a year later, police arrested Crisostomo for allegedly killing Romero. His jury trial will be on Oct. 15, 2013.

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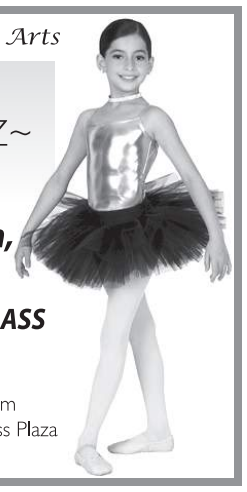

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Manglona recuses self from CPA lawsuit vs contractor

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has recused herself from the Commonwealth Ports Authority's $1-million lawsuit against Texas-based contractor Leo A. Daly Co.

In an order Tuesday, Manglona said her brother, Thomas Kiyu Villagomez, recently became a director of the CPA board.

"Accordingly, I recuse myself from this proceeding," Manglona said.

She noted that a judge must disqualify herself where her "impartiality might reasonably be questioned." She said this includes situations where " a person within the third degree of relationship to [the judge]…[is] an officer, director, or trustee of a party."

Manglona said that District Court of Guam Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood will preside in her stead.

CPA filed the lawsuit against Leo Daly in February 2012 for the alleged faulty construction of the Tinian airport's departure terminal.

Early this year CPA also filed a $1-million lawsuit against Leo Daly and the CNMI-based contractor GPPC for their work at the Saipan International Airport that were later allegedly found non-compliant with typhoon and earthquake standards. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NMI joins 15th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival

The Northern Mariana Islands sent a delegation to the 15th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival on Aug. 23-25, 2013, in Nagoya, Japan.

The NMI delegation of indigenous Carolinian dancers was one of 205 teams that entertained over 1.5-million festivalgoers. Other overseas guest teams hailed from Korea and Taiwan. The group was also joined by 2013 Miss Liberation Queen Nicole Sablan.

"The Nippon Domannaka Festival is an effective and fun way to promote Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to potential visitors in Japan, and we are pleased to support this year's delegation," said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

In addition to performing every day, the group joined the festival parade on Aug. 25. To help promote the Northern Marianas to potential visitors, some of the very popular Saipan-da! backpacks were distributed to the crowd. ***(MVA)***

MVA

Members of the Northern Mariana Islands delegation to the 15th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival pose with local supporters in Japan during the festival, held from Aug. 23 to 25, 2013, in Japan.

CABLE

From Page 1

governor said, adding that "access" remains the biggest issue at this point.

He said these include affected private property along the way—"on both the land surface and up on the aerial space so we need to address that."

Inos said the alternative would be to find another spot for the cable car if the Sugar King Park-Mount Tapochau access won't be obtained. Some of the property owners, he said, may have already passed away and dealing with estates or probate may complicate the project.

He said an alternative could be the Banzai Cliff-Suicide Cliff area in Marpi, although there have been preliminary concerns about strong winds in the area.

The governor also said eminent domain or the government's authority to take private property if necessary is always an option.

When asked whether Bridge Capital LLC may be involved in the project, the governor didn't deny this.

Allen M. Perez, chief asset manager of Bridge Capital LLC, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Cabrera and Staffler did approach Bridge Capital, requesting financing for a cable car line running from Sugar King Park in Garapan to Mount Tapochau.

Perez said Bridge Capital is "interested in the project," which is still in the beginning stage. But he said he couldn't say what, if any, is Bridge Capital's actual participation in the project at this time.

He said Bridge Capital believes a cable car would serve as another tourist attraction on the island.

Bridge Capital LLC is an international investment banking and asset management company headquartered on Saipan.

The governor also believes in the cable car's potential to become a tourist attraction.

Inos said Staffler first talked to him about a cable car plan "five or six years ago," and the concept and design has remained the same for years.

Staffler has built more than 60 residential homes, apartment buildings, a brewery, restaurants and a host of other construction projects in a span of more than 30 years on Saipan. He envisioned a cable car project on Saipan, getting inspiration from his great-grandfather Josef Staffler who, on June 29, 1908, invented and built the world's first passenger cable car in the Austrian/Italian Alps. Josef Staffler, an innkeeper from Bolzano, ingeniously saw a great chance for tourism.

Meanwhile, there have also been interests from other investors to develop a zip line on Saipan, similar to the one in Guam.

Inos said while he is not aware of this other plan, he said he "would sit down and talk to proponents, developers and see what they have in mind, how we can help, how we can put things together, and make it work. We're open."

The CNMI expects that the increases in tourist arrivals will continue next year and beyond, making it critical that the islands develop new tourist attractions.

CHC

From Page 1

During yesterday's board meeting, interim CEO Esther Muña said the hospital has a shortage of nurses, particularly "experienced ones," hence the decision to recruit nurses in the Philippines to fill this critical gap.

According to Muña, the hiring of nurses from the Philippines stopped for a while after the CNMI failed to pay the necessary fee with the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency. That has already been done, she said, with the money wire transferred to the agency.

At present, the hospital's nursing department is incurring a big chunk of overtime costs due to the manpower shortage, Muña said.

"Yes, we like the newly graduate nurses, but then the experience is missing. Even if it's a short term [the hiring of experienced Filipino nurses], at least we have to fix the situation now," said Muña.

She pointed out that the Northern Marianas College nursing program had only 23 graduates this year, not enough to fill the needed posts.

Complicating matters is the possibility that the CW visa program for foreign workers may not be extended beyond 2014, which means nonresident workers—including many nurses—may be sent home.

Alarmed by the potential adverse impact this situation would have on the corporation, board chair Joaquin Torres, vice chair Pete Dela Cruz and board member Anthony Raho outlined steps that the corporation could take to resolve the matter.

Among their recommendations arre the implementation of cross training for staff, refresher courses for managers and unit supervisors, reiterating the importance of complying with policies and standards, and the need to break up some "cultural attitudes" that hamper the effective delivery of services.

The hospital's nursing director, Leticia Reyes, disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the hospital currently has 168 nurses. Of this number, 120 are nonresident workers.

The nursing workforce when the corporation took over hospital operations in October 2011 went down from previous year's 200-plus nurses to just 130.

"We managed to fill these vacant posts and bring our number to 167. However since then, we see a very mixed [composition of our nurses]," she said.

Reyes said that a large number of nurses left this year and, although replacements were hired, majority lack the "specialty" needed at the hospital.

"We really need experienced nurses…because our [source] on island are just newly graduates and from the home health [care specialty]. We have different types of services at the hospital and so we need specialized and particular skills, which we don't see in our market here," she said, citing the shortage of experienced and seasoned nurses in the labor and delivery section.

Overtime

Reyes acknowledged that her department has been incurring high overtime costs, averaging more than 2,000 hours per month since July. This is an increase from last year's average of 1,700 hours per month.

She said the overtime spike is due to an increase in the number of patients visiting the hospital as well as the added services offered by the facility such as nurses for the Department of Correction, for chemotherapy patients, and others.

"The reason why we need more nurses is because of increased patient visits while maintaining the standard ratio of five patients for every one nurse staffer. But right now, we go up as high as seven patients per nurse at times, which is not acceptable," she said.

Reyes said CHC still needs 17 nurses to reach the recommended 185 nurses. However, she emphasized that it would make a lot of difference if they can get experienced nurses.

"We have many new hires on the floor…but if you will compare them with our experienced nurses, you will see the difference. Of course we cannot expect our new hires to be expert on particular skills, that's why what we're giving them is extensive training for a hospital setting," she added.

Reyes believes that the corporation has to come up with a recruitment mechanism that will ensure constant replacements for critical positions such as nurses.

TRAFFIC

From Page 1

Sablan said.

The governor said when he came into office, they looked at capital improvement project money available and the shovel-ready projects that they believe ought to get off the ground.

"We started moving forward with them," Inos said, adding that among these were an upgrade to existing traffic signal systems and installation of new ones such as the one in Chalan Kanoa, near the U.S. Post Office.

Inos also thanked Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who was also at the ceremony, for pushing the government to use available CIP and other federal funds for needed infrastructure projects.

"Thank you for partnering with us," the governor told the delegate.

Also in the crowd were Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, other Cabinet members and lawmakers including two House members from the precinct, floor leader Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan).

Besides the installation of a traffic signal system, the project also involves widening of the Beach Road and Tun Segundo Road intersection, installation of pavement markers and signs, installation of pedestrian crosswalks, sidewalks, curb and gutter, enhancement of landscape, and improvement of drainage system or infiltrator.

DPW awarded a $948,388-contract to GPPC Inc. for the Beach Road/Tun Segundo traffic signal system project, funded by the Federal Highway Administration.

The department issued GPPC the notice to proceed on July 8, and the estimated completion date is May 14, 2014.

Dennis Tupaz of GPPC Inc. said the contractor is committed to ensuring a quality project delivered at the earliest possible time.

During the ceremony, the governor reminded—in jest—DPW Secretary Martin Sablan that Saipan Mayor Donald Flores grew up in Chalan Kanoa so he should make sure that there would be space for planters.

The crowd laughed, remembering too well a previous spat between DPW and the Saipan Mayor's Office over concrete traffic medians or islands. Sablan and Flores were seated beside each other and shared a laugh when the governor made the remark.

The DPW secretary later told *Saipan Tribune* that there won't be raised medians, so there won't be any planters.

Today, the governor, DPW and other officials will lead another groundbreaking, for the estimated $4 million Cross Island road improvement project phase II-B.

ROTA

From Page 1

Acting HPO director Mertie Kani told the board that Mendiola wants to transfer four stone pillars and four capstones of disturbed Taga stone to the Rota Latte Stone Quarry in As Nieves. She sought the board's approval on the matter.

HPO board member Dr. Elizabeth Rechebei said the mayor's wish is a "serious issue" that needs a comprehensive review by the board. She agreed with her colleagues that once a change is implemented at a historic site, this impacts the "integrity and character" of the site.

The board did not decide on the issue on Friday, pending full review of all information on the matter.

Kani disclosed that the Rota Latte Stone Quarry at As Nieves was registered on Dec. 23, 1974, with the CNMI and U.S. National Register of Historic Places, authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1996 as part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect historic and archeological resources.

According to HPO review board chair Tom Glenn Quitugua, there are rules and regulations pertaining to the removal of artifacts from sites.

It was also at the same meeting last week when Quitugua expressed concern about a wildlife conservation area being designated on Rota, after finding out that the site encloses historical sites that need to be accounted for and preserved by the Historic Preservation Office.

48 'replacement' teachers hired for public schools

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From 31 new hires last week, the teachers' count slightly improved to 48 this week, according to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., during Tuesday's board meeting.

Sablan said, however, that a few more teaching positions remain vacant due to the difficulty in finding qualified individuals.

The new school year 2013-2014 is set to start on Sept. 3.

Sablan bared that hard-to-fill teaching posts are in secondary schools, specifically in the subject areas of geometry, chemistry, algebra, science, and English, among others.

» COE bares hard-to-fill posts in geometry, science, English for secondary schools

Acting PSS human resource officer Lucretia Borja told *Saipan Tribune* that the system, as of this week, has about 935 employees, of which over 400 are classroom teachers. The number will slightly grow if the remaining vacant teaching positions are filled.

According to Sablan, there are still six teaching positions that have to be filled for Saipan Southern High School, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School, and William S. Reyes Elementary.

"We're very happy this year that majority of our schools have completed the recruitment [process] except for six positions that are yet to be filled. We're now working with a placement services agency to help us screen a highly qualified and effective teacher in the area of math, science, and English," she said.

All the newly hired teachers are just replacements for posts that were vacated at the end of the last school year and during the summer period.

Sablan reiterated that hiring more teachers would only happen if the new budget for PSS will permit it.

Under its budget proposal for fiscal year 2014, PSS asked for the restoration of about a hundred positions in public schools, mostly classroom teachers. The Board of Education and PSS earlier submitted a $40-million budget request for the new fiscal year, which starts on Oct. 1, 2013.

However, based on the budget approved by the Senate and rejected Tuesday by the House of Representatives, public schools would only get $33 million—a $3-million increase from fiscal year 2013's budget of $30 million.

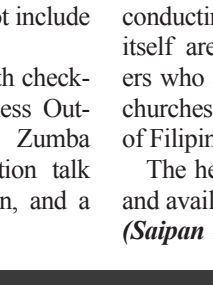
"We have indicated [to the Legislature] that we do have schools with large class sizes and we're hoping the budget they will pass soon will allow us to fill new positions that we requested in our proposal," Sablan said.

If in case PSS gets $33 million this new fiscal year, Sablan said this will possibly allow them to hire more teachers, albeit not the 100 posts PSS wants to restore.

Many public schools on island currently have no vice principals, counselors, and truant officers due to the limited budget it gets from the local government.

Wanted: Augustine B. Pangelinan

The Department of Public Safety is seeking the assistance of the community in locating Augustine B. Pangelinan, who is wanted pursuant to an arrest warrant.


Pangelinan

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued the arrest warrant for Pangelinan on Aug. 27, 2013, for the charges of disturbing the peace, contempt, violating an order for protection, and stalking.

Police have attempted to search and apprehend Pangelinan at his known address and other areas frequented but were unable to locate him.

Pangelinan, 37, is described as 5'11" tall, weighs 230 lbs, with brown eyes and dark, short hair.

Anyone who sees or knows Pangelinan's whereabouts is asked to call the police emergency hotline 911 or the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation Office at 664-9062. If you want to remain anonymous contact Crime Stoppers at 234-7272 or www.nmicrimestoppers.net. ***(DPS)***

Medical+Fitness outreach this Saturday

The Association of Filipino Pastors will be holding its first Medical+Fitness Outreach this Saturday, Aug. 31, at the Saipan Community Church.

The free health screening, which will be held from 6am to 11am at the Susupe church, will include blood pressure checkup (6am-9am), blood sugar check (6am-9am), body mass index (6am-9am), and dental consultation (6am-9am).

The dental consultation will be limited to diagnosing a dental problem and will not include treatment.

Aside from the health checkups, the Medical+Fitness Outreach will also have Zumba activities, an information talk on health and nutrition, and a prayer ministry.

The association is made up of 11 churches on Saipan: Saipan Community Church, Victorious Christian Church, Cornerstone Christian Church, Jesus Is Lord Church, Marianas Bible Fellowship Church, Christian Bible Fellowship Church, Marianas Christian Church, Upper Room International Ministries, Life In The Son Fellowship, Mission Connection Ministry, and Filipino Community Church.

Victorious Christian Church pastor Brandon Perez said those conducting the health screening itself are actual heath providers who are members of the 11 churches under the Association of Filipino Pastors umbrella.

The health checkups are free and available until supplies last. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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DPL gets $750K in EPA grants for Brownfields cleanup

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the Department of Public Lands has been awarded three Brownfields grants totaling $750,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

One of the grants is for the site specific hazardous substance assessment for Pina, Tinian, and totaling $350,000. The second grant, worth $200,000, is for community-wide hazardous substance assessment; while another $200,000 was awarded for community-wide petroleum assessment.

"I am extremely pleased that DPL was awarded these funds," said Inos. "These grants will assist DPL in performing the necessary environmental assessments on public properties that are suspected to be contaminated."

Inos said that his administration is taking a proactive approach to ensure that the general public is safeguarded from all known contaminations in the Commonwealth.

"With this funding, we will begin the process of mitigating critical matters such as hazardous wastes, oil deposits, and World War II unexploded ordnances in our grounds," stated Inos. "It's all about keeping our people safe from the environmental harm in our air, water, and land. That is our priority."

The first phase will include historical research and interviews beyond the standard requirements. Phase 2 environmental assessments will also be conducted and will include boundaries survey, clearing, biological survey, assessment of unexploded ordinances, and soil samplings.

"DPL will work closely with the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality to ensure properties with high priority are assessed first," said DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio. "This would ensure that those affected properties are cleaned in a timely manner.

The grant period begins on Oct. 1, 2013, and will run until Sept. 30, 2016. In previous years, DPL has received Brownfields grants for other assessments and cleanups. ***(Office of the Governor)***

Tinian Lions Club donates to Red Cross

From left to right, Vivian Hofschneider, Edwin Hofschneider, Lot Bunao, Rod Cabarles, Arley Long, Jen San Nicolas, Liz Hofschneider, Kedar Shrestha, and Paul Madriaga.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Barely a month after Tinian Marianas Lions Club was chartered at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino, the group made its first community service activity with a $250 donation to the American Red Cross NMI chapter on Aug. 17, 2013.

The donation was held at JC Café and was received by Tinian representatives Jennifer San Nicolas and Vivian V. Hofschneider, who is also a charter member of the club.

The check turnover was led by TMLC Charter president Lizabeth Hofschneider and members Arley Long, Kedar Shrestha, Rod Cabarles, Edwin Hofschneider, and Lot Bunao. Paul Madriaga, their guiding Lion witnessed the event.

Liz Hofschneider said that this is just the first of their community projects for this Lion year. "We have lined up projects coming up for Tinian, especially for the schools and entire Tinian community," she said.

San Nicolas expressed appreciation for the donation and happy that the Tinian Lions chose American Red Cross for their first community service. She said that Red Cross will always be ready whenever the Lions need some assistance to help the Tinian community.

Lions meet the needs of local communities and the world. Over 1.35 million members perform community service in 207 countries and geographic areas in many ways, but share a core belief: Community is what we make it.

To join the Tinian Marianas Lions Club, call Liz Hofschneider at 287-9697, secretary Lion Rod Cabarles at 285-3637 or membership director Lion Lot Bunao 285-3413. On Saipan, call Saipan Unity Lions Club president Argie Buensalido, Saipan Fil-American Lions Club president Mario Mayuga at 285-1021, or Saipan Marianas Lions Club Nelida Atalig at 233-3854. ***(PR)***

Beading class continues at JKPL

Ten schoolchildren took part in a beading class taught by Christiana T. Mendiola last Saturday at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library.

Children's Library associate Erlinda Naputi said the participants learned how to do a simple keychain during the course of the arts and crafts portion of JKPL's whole-day cultural activities.

The Saturday beadwork actually was a continuation of the previous week's activities, which involved the making of bracelets and keychains out of beads.

"Children who didn't finish their beadwork previous was able to finish up their work on Aug. 24 while newcomers were welcomed," said Naputi.

The previous Saturday, Aug. 17, more than 20 children took part in the cultural activities and were given a rare treat as local author and cultural preservationist Lino Olopai took center stage in the Read-Aloud portion of the program.

The cultural activities at the JKPL runs from 12pm to 2pm every Saturday.

It is made possible in partnership with the CNMI Humanities Motheread Program through a Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Community Service Block Grant. All programs are free of charge. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL MARIANAS, INC., Plaintiff,	]]]	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0014**
-v-	]]	**NOTICE OF SALE**
CNMI ECO OIL, CO., LTD., Defendant.	]]]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a writ of execution issued by the Court in this matter on August 1, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: One (1) 1996 Kia Rhino Fuel Tanker, CNMI License Plate No. HE 3140, Vehicle Identification No. KN3SAP7T3T5058893; and the personal property indicated in the list attached hereto, marked "Exhibit A", and incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 13, 2013, at the hour of 11:30 a.m., at premises of Pacific International Marianas, Inc., formerly doing business as Midway Motors, Beach Road, San Jose Village, Saipan, MP 96950. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of August, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

CNMI ECO Oil Co., Ltd.
Abandon Inventory List Items

Tank #	Diameter	Height	Cal Volume
1	44	51	350 Stainless
2	56	48	500 Stainless
3	63	108	1500 Metal
4	96	101	3000 Plastic
5	71	139	2500 Metal
6	95	96	3000 Metal
7	80	96	2000 Plastic
8	96	70	2250 Plastic

8 pcs	2 hp motor and pump
1 pcs	filter press
1 pcs	switch board
77 pcs	DKS NL DASH 404
112 pcs	#40 containers
5 drums	#40 containers
1 pcs	KIA RHINO Fuel Tanker

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE OF THE AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND AT PORT OF SAIPAN.
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-011-13
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites written sealed proposals from qualified air-conditioning and refrigeration firms to provide full Preventive Maintenance Service of the Air-Conditioning Units at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and at Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The term of the preventive maintenance services shall be for two (2) years. CPA at its sole option may extend the services for an additional two (2) years.

The Proposal Package is available for pick-up beginning August 2, 2013 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. The Proposal Package includes the Scope of Services and other considerations upon payment of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) to be paid at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor of the Departure Terminal Building. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the RFP. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance of the Air-Conditioning Units at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and at Port of Saipan, Project No. CPA-RFP-011-13."** One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, August 29, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Acting Executive Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB13-DOF/EDP-166

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF THIRTEEN (13) TOWER DESKTOP COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE/ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING SECTION"

THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ LARRISA C. LARSON
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
2013-CDA-04-RFP

CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2013 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"INSURANCE FOR CDA'S PROPERTIES"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR CDA BUILDING IN OLEAI, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS OR BY FACSIMILE REQUEST TO 235-7147.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

NMC prepares for October accreditation visit

As part of its accreditation efforts, the Northern Marianas College this week is undergoing a "mock visit" that aims to prepare the college community for the accreditation team visit that will occur the week of Oct. 21, directly after the submission of NMC's show-cause report on Oct. 15, 2013.

The mock visit is being conducted by Dr. Pam Fisher, who is part of the Association of Community College Trustees and is lending her expertise and experience in accreditation to provide input on what NMC employees should expect from the upcoming visit and to provide an assessment on the college's readiness.

Fisher's areas of focus while at NMC are consistent with those areas of concern identified by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges in its February 2013 action letter and the external evaluation report: mission; administrative capacity; human resource policies; access to Tinian and Rota; Student Learning Outcomes concerning information literacy; NMC's Facilities Master Plan; and Information Technology Services operational plan, policy, and procedures governance structure.

"Dr. Pam Fisher brings significant accreditation experience, and we are extremely glad that we the college can benefit first hand from her insight," said NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart.

Fisher has over 30 years of experience and is a highly respected community college educator. She has 12 years as chancellor of Yosemite CCD and has chaired visiting teams on ACCJC in the past, including those for Fresno City College, Diablo Valley College, and Saddleback College. In addition to chairing several teams, she also served as a team member on several others.

As part of the mock visit activities, Fisher will be offering independent insights based on experience as visiting team chair, and a former CEO working with a board of regents/trustees. She is making recommendations to the college using ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards to ensure it is meeting the recommendation identified by the last visiting team.

Additionally, Fisher is reviewing the evidence that verifies the assertions in the draft show-cause report that accreditation recommendation and standards are met. Further, she is reviewing the draft 2013 show-cause report and conducting interviews on-site to help assess to what degree NMC meets ACCJC eligibility requirements.

She has already met with the members of the Board of Regents, the NMC president, and members of the college community. She will also be meeting with each Standard Team to provide them feedback and insight about their progress in meeting accreditation standards and requirements. ***(NMC)***

NMC

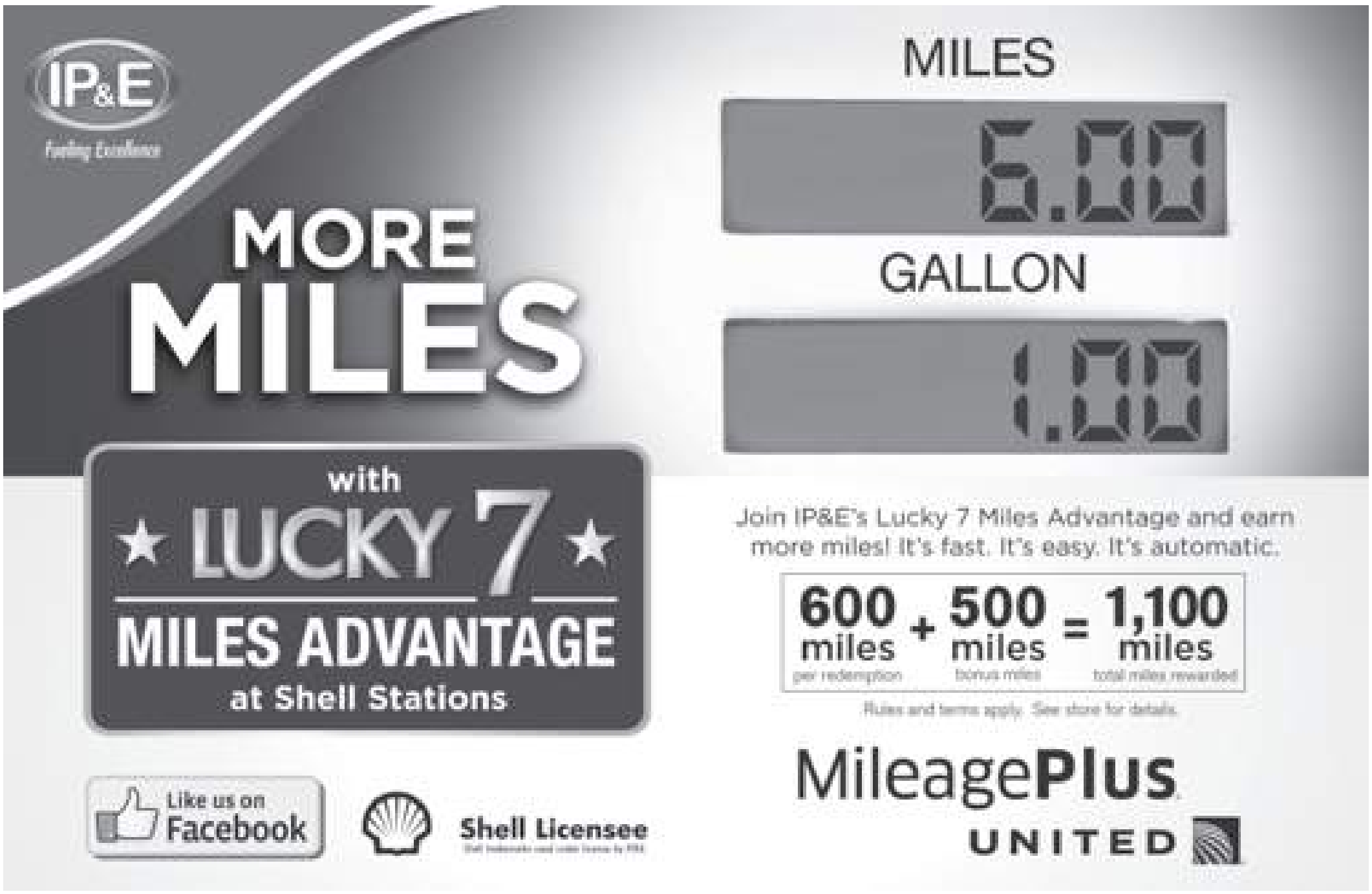
Dr. Pam Fisher speaks to Northern Marianas College employees as part of this week's "mock visit" to help prepare them for the upcoming accreditation visit later this year. Fisher, who is part of the Association of Community College Trustees, has been meeting with officials and members of the NMC community to provide feedback and insight on their progress in meeting accreditation requirements.

3 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Pau-Pau Beach, Tanapag Meeting Hall, and Garapan Fishing Dock and advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Wednesday. ***(DEQ)***



CNMI Forestry receives $185K grant

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Agriculture-CNMI Forestry was recently awarded its 2013 grant totaling $185,000 by the U.S. State and Private Forest Service – Region 5.

The funds will be used to address its three missions: "to conserve working forest lands, to protect forests from harm, and to enhance public benefits from trees and forests."

The grant funding is awarded for the following programs: Cooperative Forest Health and Invasive Species, Forest Stewardship, and Urban and Community Forestry.

The Cooperative Forest Health and Invasive Species program focuses on tree health and recovery, reduction of invasive tree species, and reduction of forest pests. The program continues to emphasize the prevention and reduction of harmful pest's continual influx into the CNMI. Program objectives include educating visitors and communities about damaging forest pest and its effect in the CNMI.

The Forest Stewardship Program assists qualifying landowners who are interested in improving their private forestland. The program collaborates with non-industrial, private landowners in hopes to restore the loss of natural habitat, minimize soil erosion, improve forest tree diversity, and enhance the general private forest landscape.

The Urban and Community Forestry program focuses on beautification of parks, beaches, and public places by planting trees and shrubs. The program aims to preserve the limited and fragile natural resources and to contribute to the island's health and aesthetic qualities by establishing more green spaces in urban areas.

The 2013 grant award is approved for 15-month period starting from July 1, 2013, through Sept. 30, 2014. For more information visit http://cnmiforestry.webs.com / or call 670-256-3320 or 3321. ***(DLNR)***

Fiesta Resort donates to MINA fundraiser

Fiesta Resort & Spa's World Café and Shenanigan's have consistently shown its support for the environment through its donation toward Mariana Islands Nature Alliance's annual "Eat Out for the Environment" fundraiser. To help MINA raise critical funds used to advance its mission of working to sustain the natural environment to ensure our island way of life, participating restaurants donate a percentage of their net revenue from the day of the event.

"MINA is very fortunate to have businesses like Fiesta Resort continue to support our cause because they believe that protecting our environment, they're protecting their business, said Sam Sablan, MINA executive director. "Tourist will flock to our islands if they know how beautiful our waters are. The way to keep our waters beautiful is to protect it from marine debris, sedimentations, and having a clean, healthy, and balanced ecosystem."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

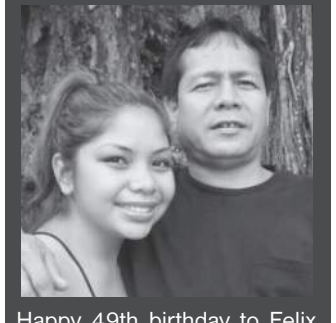
Soc Nilo Villanueva and Malou Ernest of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan present a $500 check to MINA's executive director, Sam Sablan.

For more information on how you can work to sustain the natural environment to ensure our island way of life, contact 233-REEF or visit minapacific.org. ***(MINA)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy sweet birthday to Daisy Cruz! Have a blessed birthday and stay sweet as you are to all of us! We love you! Greetings come from your family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 49th birthday to Felix u. Palacios! May everyday bring something exciting and new and may this birthday turn out to be as amazing as you! Greetings come from the entire Palacios family near and far!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

3 agencies accepting donations for Maring victims

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam said those looking to make cash donations for victims of tropical storm Maring in the Philippines can course them directly to three agencies: the Philippine Red Cross, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, and the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development.

According to the NDRRMC, the death toll from Maring totaled 25 and resulted in the declaration of a state of calamity in five provinces (Bataan, Pampanga, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal), key cities in Metro Manila, and other areas in Luzon.

As of Aug. 27, the total number of people affected by Maring increased to 643,281 families or more than 2.9 million people. Damage to property was pegged at close to $1.7 billion or 79 million pesos.

"For our *kababayans* [countrymen] and other Guam and CNMI residents who want to assist the…affected communities, you may send your monetary donations directly to NDRRMC, DSWD, and Philippine Red Cross. Monetary donations are the most flexible and would therefore be appreciated by these institutions," said the consulate general in a statement.

Below are the contact details of the three agencies accepting donations for victims of Maring:

NDRRMC

Account name: NDRRMC Donated Funds

Account numbers: 0435-021927-030 (Peso Account); 0435-021927-530 (Dollar account)

Swift Code: DBPHPHMM Account #36002016

Address: Development Bank of the Philippines, Camp Aguinaldo Branch, PVAO Compound, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines 1110

Contact Person: Rufina A. Pascual, Collecting Officer, NDRRMC, Office of Civil Defense, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Contact Nos.: (632) 421-1920; 911-5061 up to 65 local 116

Email address: accounting@ocd.gov.ph

Website: www.ndrrmc.gov.ph.

DSWD

Account number: 3124-0055-81

Bank Branch Address: Land Bank of the Philippines, Batasan, Quezon City, Philippines **Contact person:** Fe Catalina Ea (Cash Division)

Contact Nos.: (632) 931-8101 loc. 226, Mobile No.: (+63918) 628-1897

Website: www.dswd.gov.ph

Philippine Red Cross

Website: www.redcross.org.ph

Contact No.: (632)527-0000

Bank accounts for donations:

Banco De Oro
Peso: 00-453-0018647
Dollar: 10-453-0039482
Swift Code: BNORPHMM

Metrobank
Peso: 151-3-041631228
Dollar: 151-2-15100218-2
Swift Code: MBTCPHMM

Philippine National Bank
Peso: 3752 8350 0034
Dollar: 3752 8350 0042
Swift Code: PNBMPHMM

Unionbank of the Philippines
Peso: 1015 4000 0201
Dollar: 1315 4000 0090
Swift Code: UBPHPHMM

Per advisory from the Philippine Red Cross website, for donations to be properly acknowledged, fax the bank transaction slip at nos. 63.2.527.0575 or +63.2.404.0979 with your name, address and contact number. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 29, 2005

House passes personal liability bill on illegal reprogramming

The majority members of the House of Representatives passed a bill Friday that aims to hold personally liable any government employee who illegally reprograms or knowingly receives illegally reprogrammed funds. The House said this proposal, contained in House Bill 14-249, accommodates the recommendation of the Office of the Public Auditor on the issue of illegal reprogramming. Under the bill, which was introduced by Rep. Jesus Lizama, no funds shall be reprogrammed to any account which has been zero-funded by the Legislature or to any account for which the Legislature has not made an appropriation. "Any person who illegally reprograms government funds or knowingly receives illegally reprogrammed funds shall each be held personally liable for the amount to the reprogrammed account," the bill said.

OIA wants 'culturally sensitive' CIP projects

The U.S. Department of the Interior is seeking to enter into an agreement with local government agencies to ensure that all federally funded projects in the Commonwealth receive thorough assessment of possible effects to the islands' cultural and historical resources. The other parties in the proposed agreement are the CNMI capital improvement projects coordinator, the CNMI Historic Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs said the agreement aims to delegate OIA's responsibility to review individual CIP projects, in relation to compliance with the historic preservation law, to the local CIP coordinator.

August 29, 2006

'Teachers exempted from austerity law'

Like other critical government personnel, Public School System teachers and bus staff are exempted from the mandatory workhour reduction as embodied in the newly enacted austerity law, Public Law 15-24, said the Department of Finance and the Legislature yesterday. "They [teachers] are exempted under the law," said Finance Secretary Eloy Inos. He said, though, that the Education commissioner has the discretion to identify who else among the PSS staff would be exempted. In a separate interview, House Speaker Oscar M. Babauta said that section 4 of P.L. 15-24 identifies the PSS as among the exempted agencies.

EPA official: Most sustainable is wind, solar energy

Wind and solar energy would prove to be most feasible and sustainable for Saipan, according to visiting U.S. Protection Environmental Agency climate change and sustainable development regional coordinator David A. Schaller. "The most sustainable right now would be solar electricity and the wind. You need to look at wind a little bit harder. Solar, [you] can do it tomorrow. You can order solar [panels]," said Schaller during a media briefing yesterday by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at the Division of Environmental Quality office in Gualo Rai. Schaller will serve as the keynote in the chamber-sponsored Marianas Roundtable to be held on Thursday at Fiesta Resort & Spa.

August 29, 2007

CUC shifts repairs to largest power engine

Power outages may likely be reduced or canceled over the weekend or by next week after the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. shifted repair work to the biggest power engine at the Power Plant 1 in Lower Base. With the arrival of some engine parts-mostly from Singapore-there is a possibility that the 13-megawatt power engine No. 5 could be repaired by Friday, CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis told Saipan Tribune yesterday. Mathis said engine No. 5 would likely be tested between Friday and Saturday.

MHS batting for about 3.6K rolls of toilet paper

The financial troubles of the CNMI Public School System has tremendously affected its 20 public schools, forcing some on Saipan to resort to different fundraising activities just so they could meet day-to-day operational needs. A perfect example is the Marianas High School, the largest high school in the CNMI, which launched a Toilet Paper Drive last week to stock up on this necessity. MHS principal Karen Borja told Saipan Tribune yesterday that the school has to find alternative sources for its bare minimum requirements for the new school year.

NAVFAC Marianas builds on 171-year Navy heritage

SANTA RITA, Guam—On Aug. 31, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, NAVFAC, will mark 171 years of providing facilities engineering expertise to support the mission readiness of Navy and Marine Corps commanders.

The 13th Secretary of the Navy, Abel P. Upshur, officially established NAVFAC's predecessor, the Bureau of Naval Yards and Docks in 1842, to execute the design, construction and maintenance of Navy yards and a few other shore stations around the eastern seaboard of the United States. Eventually the bureau and its responsibilities would grow into the global enterprise known as NAVFAC, which was officially established in May 1966.

"I am extremely proud to serve with our NAVFAC team," said Commander Doug King, executive officer, NAVFAC Marianas. "These highly talented Civil Engineer Corps officers, Seabees, and NAVFAC civilians, along with our contractor partners, continue to make a difference through hard work and dedication. They are involved in building and maintaining sustainable facilities such as our new U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, Aircraft Parking Ramp and critical Apra Harbor wharf repairs for the Marine Corps Relocation, and delivering utilities and services while providing contingency engineering capabilities to Navy and Marine Corps commanders wherever and whenever needed."

U.S. NAVY/BILL AUSTIN

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas contractors build recreation pavilions adjacent to the Sumay Cove Marina at U.S. Naval Base Guam.

With 16 commands located in the United States, Europe, Southwest Asia, and the Far East, NAVFAC is the Navy systems command that delivers and maintains high-quality, sustainable facilities for the Navy and Marine Corps, acquires and manages capabilities for the Navy's expeditionary combat forces, and enables energy security and environmental stewardship around the globe.

NAVFAC's signature is visible on every Navy and Marine Corps installation. Nearly every pier, runway, building, gymnasium, barracks, road, utility plant, and other facilities on shore has been constructed or acquired by NAVFAC.

The command's worldwide team of planning, construction, facilities services, and acquisition subject matter experts executed approximately 45,000 separate contract actions.

NAVFAC's Public Works Departments respond to facilities service and emergency calls in a demanding 24/7 environment. This critical work is a vital enabler for what takes place daily on bases around the world.

Delivering sustainable and cost-effective solutions is increasingly important in the austere fiscal environment our nation is facing. Last year, in support of the Secretary of the Navy's ambitious energy goals to help achieve energy security and efficiency throughout the Navy, NAVFAC helped supported commanders in the Navy and Marine Corps reduce energy consumption by nearly 20 percent, and increase the Navy's total production or procurement of renewable energy to more than 1.5 million megawatt hours of electricity.

NAVFAC's Small Business program is second to none. NAVFAC continues to exceed all government-wide program goals and targets, with an average 48 percent of the total dollars awarded and more than 25,000 contracts going to small businesses.

In the expeditionary/fleet support area, NAVFAC supports the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC), Naval Special Warfare, and Naval Beach Groups with lifecycle logistics planning, support and equipment acquisition.

NAVFAC experts provide engineering reach-back support to war fighters, as well as response and recovery support for natural disasters like earthquakes. In response to Hurricane Isaac in 2012, NAVFAC sent a Contingency Engineering Response Team made up of 17 military and civilian personnel to Naval Station Gulfport and Naval Air Station-Joint Reserve Base New Orleans to help in recovery efforts.

NAVFAC also provides supported commanders with environmental expertise, such as installation restoration, environmental compliance, and National Environmental Policy Act planning and coordination.

NAVFAC has a proud history of delivering excellent products and services for supported commands since 1842. Building on 171 years of experience, NAVFAC continues to manage the planning, design, construction, contingency engineering, real estate, environmental and public works support for U.S. Navy shore facilities all over the world. ***(USN)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Veterans outreach today

The Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Program Coordinator, Ashley Morton, MA, CRC, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor from the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Division, Department of Veterans Affairs will be at the CNMI Office of Military/Veterans Affairs today, Aug. 29, from 9am to 10:30am, at Building 1364, Capital Hill. Morton will discuss and assist veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs. For veterans with service-connected disabilities so severe that they cannot immediately consider work, this program offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible.

If you wish to make an appointment or for further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military/Veterans affairs at (670) 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Townhall meeting in Kagman

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that there will be another townhall meeting to discuss the Johnson v. Inos settlement agreement. The meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 29, beginning at 5:30pm at the Chacha Oceanview Junior High School cafeteria. The general public is invited to listen to Inos and other officials explain the benefits of the settlement agreement. There will also be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions about the agreement. ***(PR)***

GES calendar of events

Registration is ongoing at the Garapan Elementary School. The new school schedule is as follows:

- Kinder AM session: 8am to 11am
- Kinder PM session: 11:25am to 2:30pm
- 1st to 6th Grade: 8am to 2:30pm

Cafeteria opens to serve breakfast at 7:15am. Applications for free and reduced meals are available at the main office. Students that qualified last school year must apply again for the new school year.

School gates are open at 7:15am. Parents and guardians should refrain from dropping their child(ren) to school before 7:15am.

Open House will be on Wednesday, Sept. 4, from 6pm to 7pm in the school cafeteria.

Contact the Main Office at 237-3341 for questions or need for clarifications. ***(PR)***

Oleai Elementary calendar of events

Oleai Elementary School will host a student orientation for school year 2013-2014 for all incoming and continuing students on Friday, Aug. 30, 2013, at 5:30pm in the school cafeteria.

Open House for kindergarten to 6th grade will be on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend these important activities.

The school year's class schedule will be follows:

- 7:55am: First bell for kinder AM session and all grades (K-6th)
- 8am: Tardy Bell
- 11am: Kinder AM session dismissal
- 11:45am: Kinder PM session begins
- 2:30pm: Dismissal for Kinder PM session and all grades (K-6th) ***(PR)***

Registration for ukulele class extended to Sept. 11

The registration for the 2013 Summer Ukulele Lessons at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has been extended to Sept. 11. The ukulele class, which starts on Sept. 12, is open to children 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours. It costs $50 and will be held from 4pm to 5:30pm every Tuesday and Thursday. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis and students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (Plastic sheet protectors and a three-ring binder are recommended). Those without instruments can also borrow one from the library, free of charge. For more information about the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, Fax 235-7550. ***(PR)***

PH consulate general in Guam closed on Monday

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam will be closed on Labor Day this Monday, Sept. 2, 2013. For emergency consular assistance, a duty officer may be contacted at mobile phone 488-4630. ***(PR)***

Tanapag Elementary School calendar

- Aug. 29: North East Cluster PD for all teachers and staff (7:30am – 4:30pm)
- Aug. 30: Parent/guardian and student orientation for all (Cafeteria), 1st to 6th grade, from 9:45am to 10:45am
- Sept. 2: Labor Day holiday
- Sept. 3: First day of classes

Instruction starts at 8am for all elementary schools. Parents or guardians are asked to have their child or children at school before 8am but not earlier than 7:30am. Bus riders are asked to be at the designated bus stop by 6:55am. Bus pick-up time is 7am. All students will be dismissed at 2:30pm

SAES registration ongoing

Registration for school 2013-2014 is ongoing at the San Antonio Elementary School. Registration forms are available at the office. For returning students, submit the complete registration form, the child's health certificate (which requires an annual renewal), a map of residence, and insurance card. For new students, include the child's birth certificate and the transfer-out form from their previous school.

Parent orientation will be on Friday, Aug. 30, 2013, from 5:30pm to 7pm. Classes will resume on Sept. 3, 2013, Tuesday. The tardy bell will ring at 8am and dismissal will be at 2:30pm. Gates will open 7:15am. New dismissal time for school year will be at 2:30pm. ***(PR)***

MHS student orientation schedule

Marianas High School will have an orientation for incoming 12th graders today, Aug. 29, at 8:30am in the gym. Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to attend. Important information will be shared and schedules will be passed out. Call 237-3206 for further information. ***(PR)***

Inos is SHRM's guest speaker today

Gov. Eloy S. Inos will be the guest speaker of the Society for Human Resource Management Northern Marianas Chapter at the society's general membership meeting today, Aug. 29, 2013. This meeting is open to the public and will be held in Charley's Cabaret at the Pacific Islands Club from 11:30am to 1:30pm. The presentation includes lunch at a cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so make your reservation early by contacting Malou Jardinero at 234-6601 local 621/622 or e-mail her at malou_jardinero@tanholdings.com. ***(SHRM)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Smart phone searches by police should raise alarm

The more we hear about President Obama's attitude toward privacy, the less we like.

The latest eyebrow-raiser is the administration's argument that the Fourth Amendment allows warrantless cell phone searches. The president last week asked the Supreme Court to resolve the issue, arguing that a cell phone is no different from any other object a suspect might be carrying, such as a notebook, calendar or address book.

Hogwash.

This isn't the 1990s. Today's smart phones contain users' financial records, medical records, emails, texts, photographs, browser histories, the books, magazines and news websites they read, detailed information about their workplaces, who their friends are and where they go—morning, noon and night.

Police who want information about suspects in the 21st century might prefer access to their smart phones over the ability to search their homes.

Unfortunately, the case before the court is not a good test. It's about a Massachusetts man who, in 2007, appeared to be selling crack cocaine from his car and had with him what amounts to a primitive flip phone. Police arrested him, seized his phone and found his address and the names of people he had been calling. The information led them to his house, where they found guns, cash and drugs, leading to a conviction.

The defendant's lawyer appealed, arguing that accessing the information on his cell phone without a warrant violated his Fourth Amendment rights. The First Circuit court of Appeals agreed, saying police should have obtained a warrant. But the Obama administration argues there was little difference between looking at the cell phone and going through his address book to locate the man's home, which is allowed by the courts.

That may be true of the case in question, given the limited information on the phone. But allowing police to search through a suspect's sophisticated smart phone clearly would violate the spirit of the Fourth Amendment.

In recent weeks, President Obama has been trying to assure Americans that the NSA and other government agencies have not abused their authority. He has said he would consider reforms to protect Americans' privacy. But his support for the right of police to search suspects' smart phones without a warrant has to heighten public fears.

Technological advances in the years ahead will only make it easier for police and the government to access information that Americans reasonably expect to be private. If the courts swing the door wide to that access based on existing law, which never envisioned this technology, it will be up to Congress and the states to restore privacy rights. It doesn't look like the president's going to help.

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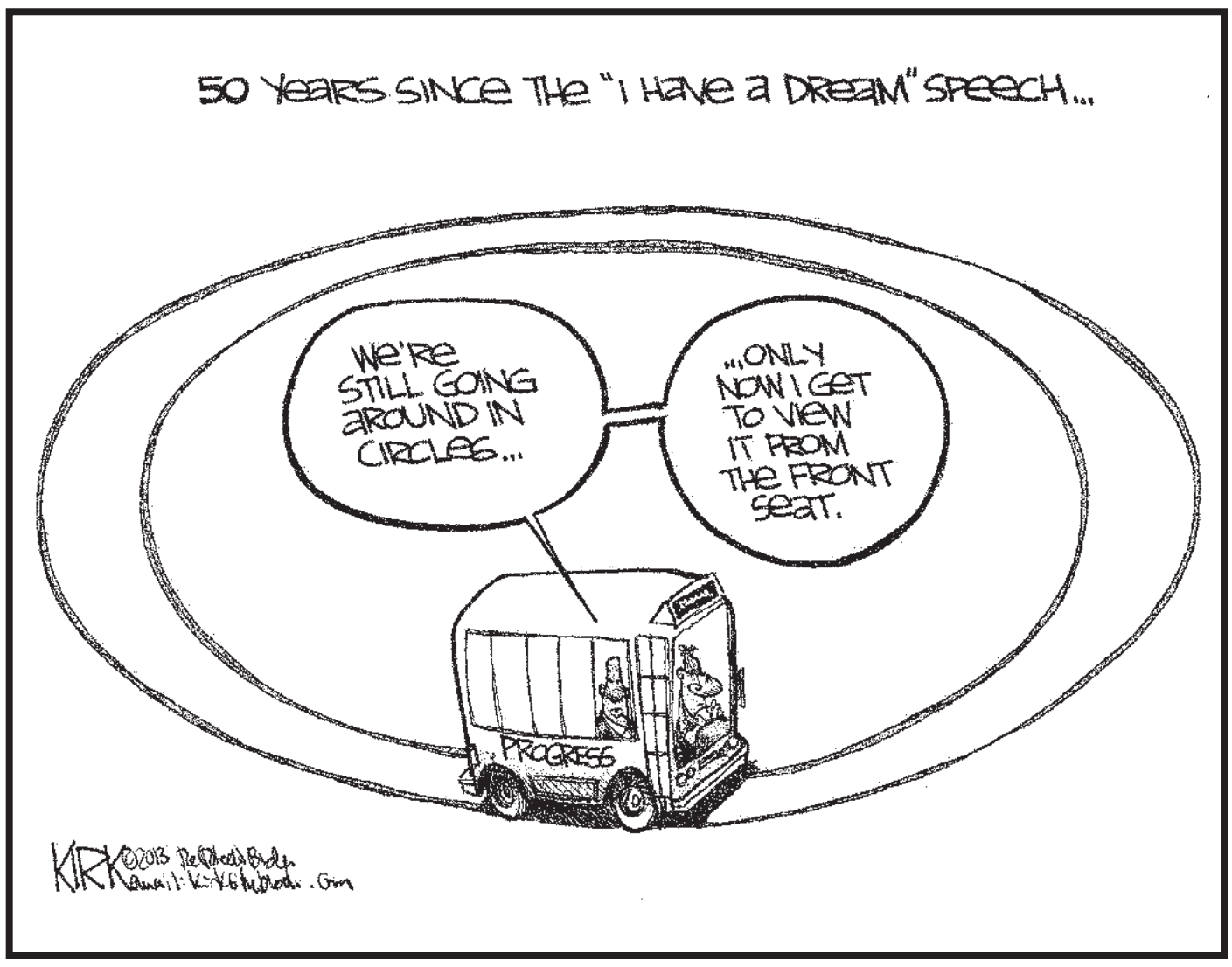

50 YEARS SINCE THE "I HAVE A DREAM" SPEECH...
WE'RE STILL GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES...
...ONLY NOW I GET TO VIEW IT FROM THE FRONT SEAT.
PROGRESS
KIRK ©2013

The end

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara is an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and was pastor of Saipan Immanuel UMC at the second millenium's turn. He now writes from China.

From the Internet:

As I was lying around, pondering the problems of the world,
I realized that at my age I don't really give a rat's ass anymore.
... If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.
... A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, but is still fat.
... A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years, while
... A tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years.
And you tell me to exercise? I don't think so.
Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked,
the good fortune to remember the ones I do,
and the eyesight to tell the difference.

I love the author's paraphrase of Francis of Assisi at the end.

We are coming to the end of our writing. As one of my soul mates who went through chemo and now lives the struggle of a cancer survivor says, talking of end things do not come easy. Everyone avoids the subject of death.

My theological awakening, when the discipline was still considered the queen of sciences, occurred in the '60s when a strapping 18-year-old Pinoy lawyer-wannabe chanced on an ecumenical Youth Assembly at Silliman University in Dumaguete City (an institution started by Presbyterians in 1901). I bumped into characters like the Nazi-executed martyr Bonheoffer (Freedom), biblical scholar Bultmann (Question of God), theologian Tillich (You are accepted), and the ethical visionaries Niebuhr brothers (Church as social pioneer), et al. We consequently teetered to the left.

Add the opening of closed doors and shuttered windows of the musty Basilica by John XXIII, and I found my mind quickly in the expansive quadrangle of the monastic cloister contemplating moves not even common to Jesuits. A sail later, from Manila to SF's Golden Gate, by Greyhound to the woods of Kentucky across the prairie of the Midwest, I quickly entangled myself in the ongoing theological upheaval at the time, buttressed by a youth revolution and a civil rights movement with truncheons and live dogs. Those were heady days to be playing attention to one's life.

A decade later, an elderly couple, a renowned Princeton University educator and head of Union Theological Seminary in New York when the fierce winds of Vatican II were blowing wildly to the Hudson, and his wife, decided to take on "the freedom of the Holy Spirit" with an intentional overdose of sleeping pills at 75 and 80.

Euthanasia was the dreaded term for the act, espoused as far back as Socrates downing the hemlock, restored at the cutting edge of a Christology that saw Jesus not as a victim of Roman connivance to Jewish defensive paroxysm but as a willful act of taking the cross unto one's entire being. The Van Dusens decided that the springlike burst of joy at birth and its muted wintry chill of death can no longer be just left to passive resignation in nature. As increasingly a feature of birth, death had become an item of choice.

I was liberal but not that progressive. Michigan was our vacation state, with friends living in Flint when graffiti was still unseen in neighborhoods, and Muskegon still elicited mirth and mystery from foreign lads like me. There was Jack Kevorkian in Pontiac, bringing sanity to dark corners but later vilified in U.S. media as Dr. Death, sentenced later to 10 years in prison (served 8) for practicing physician-assisted suicide.

My Dad at 57 rode a motorbike to supervise his assigned territory in Cagayan, a province in northern Luzon. One late afternoon, in his desire to get home before sundown, he taxed stamina too far and ran head-on to a bus. Medivac to Manila and subjected to the wonders of reconstructive surgery, he could not go through an airport security without triggering off the alarm bell and flashing red lights. Steel had been conjoined to his bones.

Retiring early, he joined my brother in Hawaii. Later, in his late 80s, he would pray, "God take me," for the pains that ailed his body. My last visit with him was when he was 92 at a nursing home, still smiling but lost in figuring out who the hell I was. He died at 94 after attempting many times to escape from the home, often found wandering in the middle of the night on the busy highway, perhaps hoping never to be found alive again. Unhappily for him, one of his sons is a chaplain with the Honolulu police department, so he would invariably be escorted in a flashing limo of Aloha's finest back to the ward.

My mother lies in a nursing facility in Honolulu where she is assisted to eat at appointed times; she sits and snoozes on her wheelchair awaiting her turn to be guided back to her bed as caregivers are assigned their numerous patients. She turns 94 in September.

Ending is not something we decide. We would rather have someone else decide it for us. Most of us would rather be on automatic ride in the great roller coaster of life. To those who still reside in a two-story universe, as my father did, we allot a lot of decisions on an external power we call God.

Though the terms *hara kiri* and *seppuku* entered our vocabulary recently, we are not close to contemplating their actual execution. What we do know is that setting endings is a glorious liberating thing. We are bidding *adieu* to this page and the island of Saipan.

Our 10-4 is not casual. It ends with a dot. Period.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Usun liñguahen natibu

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Gi maseha manu na inasoda' hinerat, gigon matutuhon i hunta gi finu' Iñglis (English) ensegidas un' choma' i mayotmente man-pattisipau pot ti fafayen niha i adaptau na liñguahe.

Kulan mohon este siha na hunta man-maseñala para ayu ha' i tumuñgu' man-finu' Iñglis. Tinahoñg ha' ni insuttu siha ni man-mapoñgga mañaita deste Español, Haliman, Japones, pa'gu Amerikanu. Repara ya inna setbe liñguahen tanu'.

I bintahan usun hila' nanata i ensegidas un' hala halom todus gi maseha haf" na asuntu ma-diskukute. Mas anchu i pattisipasion 'nai mas lokue' oppan haf" sentimentun i mañauna. Makomple i priniponen hunta gi mas antau na eskalera 'nai mas oppan i inakomprende.

Megai man-sustansiau siha na asuntu ni debi ta diskute kumu membron komunida. Lamegai mangai kinomplikau ni debi umapula' gi finu' Chamorro yan Karolinas. Responsablidat man-kondudukta hunta na guaha preparasion para este siha na inasoda'.

Yangin para tafan sige ha' man-hunta sin inakomprende pues mas buente bali este na klasen inasoda' publiku hinerat gi plaset simienteyu 'nai ni unu gi man-matai ume'ekuñgog.

Ineyag umekuñgog

Yangin ta konsidera haf" na mampos disareglau i tanu', repara sa' todu ha' mañgekuentos ya ni unu ume'ekuñgog. Piot ya kinetbaba-ta, magpu' i nobenan pueñge lau trabiha 'las dies ha' gi ega'an. Kontodu hagu ni ti bibulachu siempre un' kinilili' halom ni napun abarambau na finu' pattsisipante siha.

Este i umekuñgog i mas presisu na kualidat gi ayu siha i man-maelihe. Sige hu akanteha haf" na memegaiña ensegidas mantañga gi seriosu siha na inigoñg yan nesessidat publiku?

Kau mampos mafñot i kotbata ya man-hiniga' titanos niha? Ke lau haye hamyu fumaisen kumachet agaga' miyu talen pastahe?

Nesessita u guaha sensian hinimidde ya ta tatiye i mañeluta giya Luta yan Tinian 'nai ni unu kinetbaba-ta sa' diariu na trahen cho'chu' ma-u'usa antes, durante yan dispues de man-macho'chu' gi gualu' yan tasi. Ni unu kinetbaba-ta lau todu numanae' animu gi pisun kutturan natibu—I tanu ginen man-antigu na mañainata.

Otru asunto siha

Sige i Covenant yan Republican ma-eñgulu' planun para u ta'lun umasagua. Pa'gu masosoda' na guagua ha' dididi' soblan inaquaiya. Lau manu 'nai para umapo'lu i neni 'sino IR?

Hombre hagas guiya ha' na pattida pot kada ratu matulaika trahiña: pa'gu franela, agupa' chininan chita. Makonsidedera lokue' haf" para umachogue ni parentes niha gi un' banda. Era guiya i nuebu ni mafana'an "immediate relative" 'sino independent republican.

Maseha haf" na dinaña', siempre u guaha eleksion nuebu na grupon offisiat. I suman hilu' u metgot man-dispone. I pumalu kulan sindalun Haliman ni man-ma-entrega paken paska na piao. I tetehnan flecha ni manana'ye balan lasas kahet. Gupot gi halom fotte na estrakada.

■ ■ ■

I sagun tiao siempre u kanifes gi tinilaikan tasi 'nai man-lamudoñg esta i katdume. Hu chage kelagueña gi mapos na semana. Diberas na pairen totche piot sa' mana' senpika. Hu fuyot dispues gi halom titiyas mai'es yan manadan siboyas yan doni' sali.

Ha koneyu' tatte 'nai chumiliguagua'yu' para si tata giya Puntan Muchot. Ha kelaguen dispues ya ha kalañgkañge dididi' niyog. Tat pachot gi oriyan lamasa ti papagpag sa' inipus pinikaña. Estague' kase tutuhon chetton kelaguen tiau gi hila'hu.

■ ■ ■

Este i tilipas hañgun yan tataga' paire mantikan niha piot ya kineni' pueñge. Gigon un' supog gi paire na finadeni' dispues un' fuyot gi titiyas mai'es, magpu' i nobena.

Tai malefaghu un' biahe giya LA gi gima' un' Chamorron Guam ni bumalutan tilipas tataga' pot no umatuñgu' ni bisitan a'paka' na makakanu' tilipas guihan.

'Nai man-hanau i bisita, sige mamaisen i amku' para umachule' huyuñg i "seaweed". A` Saina! Seaweed? Mauleg sa' matuñgo' haf" mañge'.

■ ■ ■

Puti i diniñgu maseha haye na rasan tautau ni liñguahiña. Ala kuenta kulan "naufragu" i prohimu 'nai sige umekuñgog gi otru mismu tautauña mañgonbetsasion gi finu' Chamorro. Entre mamahlau yan fufugu sa' chatkomprende ni hilaña mismu.

Muñga hinalañg tinituhon ineyag hila' miyu mismu. Maulegña un' atotga pa'gu ya un sige mona ke un' bibira hau gi naftanmu pot ti un' tuñgu' hila' nanamu.

Bula estotbu gi kareran ineyag finu' Chamorro. I hinalom cyber technology nahuñg para u chalapon satton na ineyag liñguahe. Kontodu konbetsasion entalu' familia u faliñgun ñaihon estake guaha fotmat na areglon halom guma gi usun iphone, ipad, kindle yan laptop.

I ineyag finu' Chamorro gaige gi halom gima' familia. I dos saina solu siña umesgaihon este na ineyag gi famaguon niha. Yangin un' chanda, pues ti umatuñgu famaguon-mu finu' niha mismu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My rebuttal

Any controversial issue that affects the community warrants public debate and provides for a form of education to the reading public. The public must be provided with the pros and cons of the issue being debated. Allow me to share my second letter on casino operation and this time responding to Mr. Ambrose Bennett's letter on the casino initiative for the Third Senatorial District. For you information and to put things in a clearer perspective, Mr. Ambrose Bennett represents the interest of the Tinian Dynasty. I am representing the interest of the CNMI public. I do not get paid, not an agent or a representative of any interest group. With that said, let me begin by responding to Mr. Bennett's proposed industries that he said Saipan should explore instead of casino operation.

1. *"Product of Industry of Made in America goods (shoes, high-end apparel). The CNMI has the lowest minimum wage in America."* My response: The CNMI already tried the Made in U.S.A. products' labor-intensive industry, which was the apparel or garment industry. Why did the garment industry leave the CNMI and will never come back? Reason: The United States voted in the World Trade Organization of which it is a member to allow China and other Third World countries to market their textile or garment products in the United States, which resulted in killing our garment industry. How? *Cheap labor.* The CNMI could not compete with these countries that pay their laborers very low wages (e.g., $5 per day) compared to the CNMI where we paid garment workers a minimum of $28 per day, So the CNMI may have the lowest minimum wage in America but not in the international market!

2. *"Expand Agricultural Base. Promote more fish farms, agricultural products, rabbit farms, bread fruit a potential for export."* My response: These are noble ideas and should be encouraged. However, let's be mindful of the obstacles that come with large-scale exporting. First, markets for such products must be identified and established. Second, can the CNMI produce a year-round steady supply of cash crops despite inclement weather, crop destruction, lack of crop insurance, market restrictions such as high tariff, packaging, fumigation process, etc.? Markets oftentimes impose such restrictions to discourage foreign imports in order to protect local production of the same or similar commodities. Can Saipan produce large-scale export of agricultural produce outside of the CNMI and Guam? A production and market study should be made first.

3. *"Ferry industry. If I had not been so persistent with the Fitial and Inos administrations the ferry service would have been another killed project."* My response: Ferry service between the islands of Saipan and Tinian is nothing new. We used to have a ferry service that transported cars to and from Tinian, particularly during the Tinian San Jose fiesta and the last ferry service was the Tinian Dynasty passenger ferry service that operated for several years. This type of service could be considered again but I ask the question" Why aren't businesses buying into this type of service? Is it the high cost of fuel, the customer base is small, slow return on investments, etc.? There could a host of reasons why no one is biting into it.

4. *"Convention center. A former congressman came up with the convention center idea and spent over $100,000 getting an architect to do the plans for the convention center but was killed for casinos."* My response: Constructing a convention center on Saipan is a very good idea and locating a site to construct one should not be a big problem as some people suggest it to be. The biggest obstacle to constructing the convention center is *cost*. Where, at this point in time, will the CNMI government secure funding to construct a multi-million dollar facility with all the financial problems that is driving our government to the ground? Casino operation on Saipan does not need big capital construction funding. Large hotels for casino operation and other infrastructure requirement for the industry are already in place. Better yet, revenue from casino operation on Saipan can help finance the construction of the convention center for our CNMI tourism industry. Makes sense.

Over 80 percent of states in the U.S. have casino operations. Why do so many states support this industry in their communities? Why have American Indians pleaded and were granted casino operations in reservations and elsewhere? Because it has been proven that casino operation does not bring social harm to the communities in this day and age but instead *brings big economic benefits* to the individual states, helps finance state public services, and helps the American Indian communities to prosper. Financially, it is a lucrative or very profitable business operation. In our case, Saipan is the CNMI's moneymaker that generates 99 percent of all CNMI revenues from the day we became a Commonwealth. Let Saipan bring in some of these large "outside new monies" into the CNMI economy for the benefit of *all the municipalities*. Food for thought: In sports, you pit your best horse to race, you pit your best boxer to fight in the ring, you pit your best pitcher in baseball, you pit your best rooster in cockfighting, you pit your best quarterback in football, and the list goes on. Think about it.

Marvin Pangelinan
San Vicente, Saipan

Rep. Conner's suspect dissertation

Conner's longish bromide on the essence of DPL's "segregated funds" is but *ignus fatuus*. It was my predecessor (MPLA board) who awarded my brother-in-law the land. The document I signed was basically technical in nature to complete the board's deficient decision. So your insinuation that I issued what's known as a "land grant" (if you understand what the concept entails) is riddled with fallacy.

This happens when one fails to do due diligence in the verification of information. As in your case, you showed your inability to use principle-based reasoning as to recklessly brave promoting intellectual dishonesty. Apparently, lying was your quickest exit to mend your deficiency to aggressively search for other financial resources to help some 587-homestead applicants. You failed them royally, I didn't!

You took a pit stop supporting homesteading for the Northern Islands that further demonstrated your obvious lack of clarity of understanding that homesteading per pertinent constitutional provision is solely the purview of DPL. The "use, management and disposition" of public land is restricted to DPL. Not a scintilla of this provision grants the Legislature or administration the authority to institute homesteading programs. Cleaaaa?

No worries, Mr. Conner, I'm a stickler for fiduciary duties, specifically honoring the fidelity of the rule of law to protect the interest of the indigenous people in my former capacity as secretary of DPL. You can't imagine the blowback I had to endure disapproving my late mother-in-law's land exchange claim under the waiver law. I even had to revoke my own daughter's homestead permit for failing to meet homestead regulations. It's a tough job where one must have a powerful sense of integrity to ensure equal application of laws and in protecting the rights and interests of the indigenous landowners.

For the 587 homestead applicants, the name Conner is one to remember in next year's election. I didn't force 587 saber teeth now gnawing away at his ankles. He did it unto himself! It isn't hard figuring out his apparently misguided venture, ignoring the needs of homestead applicants. Simple: He and his spouse have secured their homestead lots after which they started humming, "Make the world go away." Unfortunately, some 587 homestead applicants would reciprocate singing the Beatle's *Help!*

John S. DelRosario Jr.
Former secretary, DPL

Betel nut tax

I see our illustrious House floor leader Ralph Demapan has proposed a 100-percent tax increase on a pack of cigarettes from $2 to $4. Is this not a form of discrimination? I once read a letter to the editor that suggested a tax on sugar products. What happened to that idea, Mr. Demapan?

Here is my proposal: How about a tax on betel nut? I truly believe there are more betel nut chewers than smokers on our island. What a source of revenue! Also, what is more disgusting to our tourists as they walk along the sidewalks: cigarette butts or puddles of red spit and betel nut remains?

Citizens of Saipan, if you agree with this idea, please follow the red spit road up Capital Hill and let your voice be heard.

Enrique Torres
Koblerville, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°	▲88° ▼76°

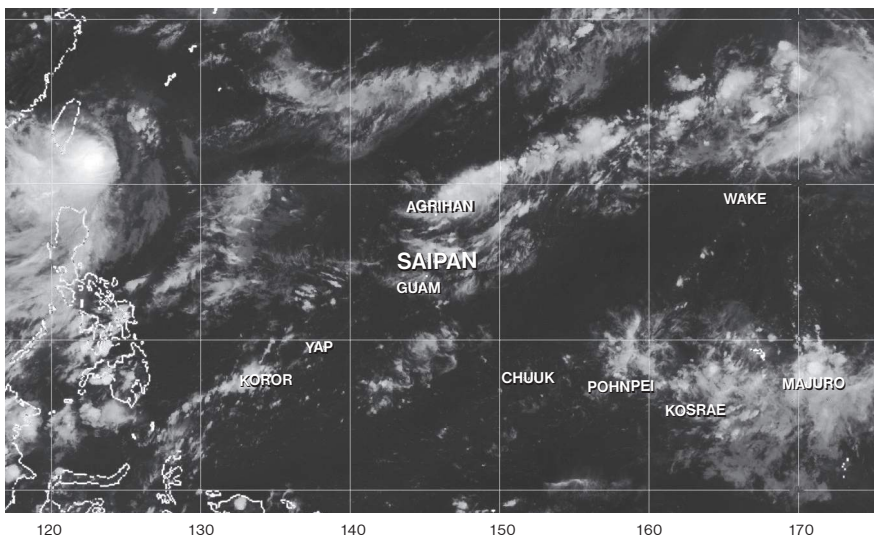
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲84	▼75
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼74
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼74
Majuro	Sunny	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲57	▼48
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼59
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼68
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼49
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲90	▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲93	▼81
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼52
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲86	▼74
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼64
Salem	Showers	▲77	▼64
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼60
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼69
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲95	▼80
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼71

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak circulation is centered west of Guam at 15N133E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present west of the Marianas between 13N and 20N from 132E to 136E. A surface trough across the northern CNMI extends northeast from 17N146E to 24N156E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present within 70 miles of the trough axis. Low-level convergence is triggering isolated thunderstorms near Palau and west of Yap within 90 miles of a line from 5N133E to 10N136E. A surface trough extends northeastward from 6N145E to 12N148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Guam within 125 miles of a line from 6N143E to 11N147E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across the Marshall Islands to northeast of Pohnpei within an area bounded by a line from 10N180 to 4N180 to 1N168E to 10N158E. An upper-level low is centered northwest of Wake Island at 26N164E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen north of a line from 21N162E to 21N169E to 25N174E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:28 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
9:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
4:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
9:19 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:52 PM	1:01 PM
Friday	12:39 AM	1:49 PM
Saturday	1:28 AM	2:35 PM
Sunday	2:17 AM	3:20 PM
Monday	3:06 AM	4:03 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
OZ1077	4:50am	7:10am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
DL583	5:50am	8:30am	2, 5, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ612	3:40am	7:20am	Daily
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
OZ1087	10:00pm	2:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
DL582	8:30pm	1:00am+1	1, 4, 5
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ611	9:10pm	2:40am+1	Daily
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Labor rules to boost employment for vets, disabled

WASHINGTON (AP)—Veterans and disabled workers who often struggle to find work could have an easier time landing a job under new federal regulations.

The rules, announced Tuesday by the Labor Department, will require most government contractors to set a goal of having disabled workers make up at least 7 percent of their employees. The benchmark for veterans would be 8 percent, a rate that could change from year to year depending on the overall number of former military members in the workforce.

The new requirements could have a major impact on hiring since federal contractors and subcontractors account for about 16 million workers—more than 20 percent of the nation's workforce. But some business groups have threatened legal action, complaining that the rules conflict with federal laws that discourage employers from asking about a job applicant's disability status.

Labor Secretary Thomas Perez called the new policy a "win-win" that will benefit workers "who belong in the economic mainstream and deserve a chance to work and opportunity to succeed." He said it also would benefit employers by increasing their access to a diverse pool of new workers.

The unemployment rate for disabled workers is a staggering 14.7 percent, nearly twice the rate of 7.4 percent for the general population. The jobless rate for all veterans is 7.3 percent, but for veterans who served in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars it's 9.9 percent, according to the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The rules are expected to affect about 171,000 companies doing business with the federal government, said Patricia A. Shiu, director of the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. Generally, the rules affect those contractors with at least 50 employees and $50,000 in government contracts.

US consumer confidence rises in August

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans' confidence in the economy inched closer to a 5 1/2-year high on growing optimism that hiring and wages could pick up in coming months.

The Conference Board, a New York-based private research group, said Tuesday that its consumer confidence index rose to 81.5 in August. That's up from a revised reading of 81 in July. And it's just below the 82.1 reading in June, which was the highest since January 2008.

Consumers' income expectations, which fell earlier this year after a January tax hike, rebounded to the highest level in 2 1/2 years, said Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board's economic indicators.

Although consumers were more confident about the future, their assessment of the current economy dipped slightly in August.

"Consumer sentiment is holding steady, supported by advances in stocks, solid job creation, and a broad-based recovery in the housing market," Jim Baird, chief investment officer at Plante Moran Financial Advisors, wrote in a research note.

AP

In this Aug. 1, 2013 file photo, a shopper strolls past a storefront in downtown Ottawa, Ill.

Consumers' confidence in the economy is watched closely because their spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

After hitting bottom at 25.3 at the depths of the Great Recession in February 2009, the index has bounced back. But it has yet to get back to the 90 reading that signals a healthy economy.

Americans' confidence jumped in June on hopes that the job market was starting to turn around. The economy has created an average of 192,000 jobs a month this year, slightly ahead of last year's pace. And the unemployment rate fell last month to a 4 1/2-year low of 7.4 percent.

NY Times site inaccessible, 2nd disruption in Aug.

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)—Readers who tried to click on the New York Times' website got nothing but error messages Tuesday afternoon in its second major disruption this month. A hacker group calling itself the "Syrian Electronic Army" claimed responsibility.

Within minutes of the attack, the New York Times announced in a Twitter message that it would continue to publish news. The company quickly set up alternative websites, posting stories about chemical attacks in Syria. "Not Easy to Hide a Chemical Attack, Experts Say," was the headline of one.

The cyberattacks come at a time when the Obama administration is trying to bolster its case for possible military action against Syria, where the administration says President Bashar Assad's government is responsible for a deadly chemical attack on civilians. Assad denies the claim.

"Media is going down..." warned the Syrian Electronic Army in a Twitter message before the websites stopped working, adding that it also had taken over Twitter and the Huffington Post U.K.

Times spokeswoman Eileen Murphy said the disruption was caused by a "malicious external attack" that affected its website and email, while Twitter spokesman Jim Prosser said viewing of images and photos were sporadically affected. Huffington Post U.K. did not respond to requests for comment.

Both Twitter and the Times said they were resolving the attack, which actually hit an Australian company that registered their domain names, Melbourne IT.

The Syrian Electronic Army has, in recent months, taken credit for Web attacks on media targets that it sees as sympathetic to Syria's rebels, including prior attacks at the New York Times, along with the Washington Post, Agence France-Presse, 60 Minutes, CBS News, National Public Radio, The Associated Press, Al-Jazeera English and the BBC.

Q&A on turmoil in emerging Asian markets

HONG KONG (AP)—From India to Indonesia, the currencies and stock markets of emerging economies have been roiled by speculation about when the U.S. Federal Reserve will start scaling back monetary stimulus that has kept interest rates ultra-low and sent investors to developing markets in search of higher returns. Separately, Asian economies that had been star performers are now in the dumps and the ebbing investment tide has sparked fears the region will suffer a rerun of its 1997-98 financial crisis.

Q: Why are investors fleeing Asia?

A: The looming phase-out of the Fed's cheap money policy is having a sobering effect. Investors are being lured back to advanced economies such as the U.S., where growth is recovering, while Asia's prospects look less attractive as China shifts into a lower gear after years of torrid expansion. The pain is being felt most in India and Indonesia, where the investor exodus has sent currencies plummeting, threatening to fan inflation and widen current account deficits. The two governments have been forced to step in with measures aimed at boosting confidence. Also feeling the heat is Malaysia, where the central bank this month slashed its 2013 economic growth forecast to 4.5-5 percent from 6 percent. In Thailand, the economy contracted unexpectedly in the second quarter.

Q: Will there be a replay of the Asia financial crisis, as some fear?

A: In the late 1990s, a sudden withdrawal of foreign investment from Thailand triggered a banking and currency crisis. The contagion spread rapidly to neighboring countries and to Russia and Brazil even as central bankers worked furiously to calm the markets. But this time, many analysts say the turmoil is unlikely to explode into a full blown crisis because Asian countries are better equipped to deal with sudden shifts in investor sentiment. "Everybody's quite worried about Fed tapering," said David Carbon, head of economic research at DBS Bank in Singapore, referring to withdrawal of the central bank's extraordinary stimulus. "That's natural. At some point the Fed's going to go back to normality. That doesn't mean the end of Asia."

Q: How is the situation now different?

A: Many emerging Asian economies no longer keep their currencies at fixed rates, so they don't have to mount costly defenses against attacks by speculators trying to devalue them. Thailand spent billions of dollars in a failed attempt to prop up the baht in 1997. Asian countries have also amassed big foreign currency reserves, which central banks can tap in emergencies. Even troubled India has about $270 billion in foreign exchange reserves, equivalent to about five months of imports, compared with less than one month's worth back in 1990 when India suffered a balance of payments crisis, according to Fitch analysts. Many are also running surpluses in their current accounts, which show trade and investment income balances. In the 1990s, many were in deficit, meaning they needed to borrow foreign capital to keep their economies and banking systems running. The main exceptions today are India and Indonesia.

Q: What troubles is India facing?

A: The stock market has dropped 10 percent in the past three months and the rupee has lost a sixth of its value against the dollar since the start of the year. The government has introduced new duties on imported televisions, raised gold taxes and hiked deposit rates to combat the outflow of money but analysts say the measures are a panicky response that shows the government lacks a coherent economic plan.

Q: How has the weakening rupee affected Indian companies?

A: Indian businesses that took out foreign-currency loans with government encouragement are now suffering. Companies borrowed at low rates abroad and sometimes parked the cash in accounts back home to take advantage of the high interest rates set by the central bank to tackle inflation. Government policies allowed automatic approval for loans of up to $750 million. "These companies thought the currency cannot move so quickly," said Abhishek Goenka, founder and CEO of consulting firm India Forex Advisors. "But markets always behave in ways that you cannot expect. Markets moved, and the rupee has fallen. So most of these companies are going to have huge losses on their balance sheets."

Q: How much did Indian companies borrow?

A: Based on Indian central bank data, about a quarter of the $300 billion in foreign debt owed by Indian corporations is short-term loans due to be repaid in a year, according to Daljeet Kohli, head of research at IndiaNivesh Securities. Borrowers can usually roll those loans over for another term. Credit Suisse analysts estimated this month that debt levels at 10 of India's biggest corporations had risen 15 percent even as profitability remains under pressure. From 40 to 70 percent of the loans are in foreign currencies, the report said.

Q: What about Indonesia?

A: The rupiah has lost nearly 9 percent so far this year and is at its lowest level in four years. The Jakarta Composite Index is down by more than a fifth in the past three months as economic growth slows after hitting 6.5 percent in 2011. Companies that consume a lot of imported raw materials, like steelmakers and pharmaceutical and food companies, face higher costs. Airlines are pinched by higher jet fuel bills. Some 70 percent of Jakarta-based Lion Air's costs are in dollars but almost all of earnings are in rupiah. "No doubt the decline in the rupiah is affecting us," said spokesman Edward Sirait.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
14,776.13	1,630.48	3,578.52
-170.33	-26.30	-79.05
-1.14%	-1.59%	-2.16%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.1204	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7558	Philippine Peso	44.6600
British Pound	0.6445	Indian Rupee	68.1805	Singapore Dollar	1.2826
Canadian Dollar	1.0498	Indonesian Rupiah	10,905	South Korean Won	1,116.01
Chinese Yuan	6.1263	Japanese Yen	97.2650	Swiss Franc	0.9186
Euro	0.7474	Malaysian Ringgit	3.3360	Taiwan Dollar	29.9860
		New Zealand Dollar	1.2856	Thailand Baht	32.2800

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Kenmore 15 cu.ft. Refridgerator **$599.95**

Proctor Silex Microwave Oven 0.6 **$65.95**

Hefty 15 Qt Storage Solutions **$6.95**

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Sony CD/Radio Recorder High Power Output **$199.95**

Craftsman EVOLV 14pc Combo Wrench Set **$24.95**

Craftsman Drill & Circular Saw Starter Kit **$135.95**

Black & Decker 12 Volt Cordless 83 Piece Project Kit **$89.95**

Homz 32Gal Plastic Tote **$18.95**

Surfrider Slip N Slide **$5.95**

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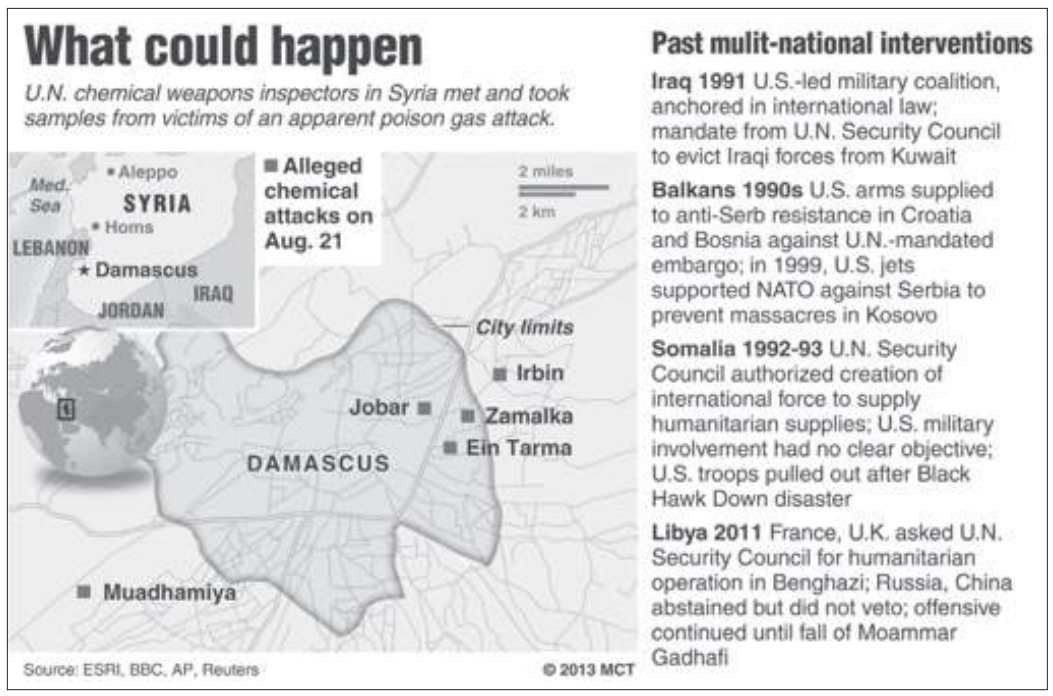
Nation

US readies rationale for a possible Syria strike

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration tried to bolster its case Tuesday for possible military action against Syria within days, with intelligence agencies preparing to release intercepted communications aimed at proving Bashar Assad perpetrated a large-scale chemical weapons attack on civilians. "There's no doubt who is responsible for this heinous use of chemical weapons in Syria: the Syrian regime," Vice President Joe Biden said.

The U.S. and international partners were unlikely to undertake military action before Thursday. That's when British Prime Minister David Cameron will convene an emergency meeting of Parliament where lawmakers are expected to vote on a motion clearing the way for a British response to the alleged chemical weapons attack.

President Barack Obama and Cameron conferred on response plans Tuesday, their second known conversation in recent days.


What could happen
U.N. chemical weapons inspectors in Syria met and took samples from victims of an apparent poison gas attack.
Med. Sea
Aleppo
SYRIA
Homs
LEBANON
Damascus
IRAQ
JORDAN
Alleged chemical attacks on Aug. 21
2 miles
2 km
City limits
Irbin
Jobar
Zamalka
Ein Tarma
DAMASCUS
Muadhamiya
Source: ESRI, BBC, AP, Reuters
© 2013 MCT
Past mulit-national interventions
Iraq 1991 U.S.-led military coalition, anchored in international law; mandate from U.N. Security Council to evict Iraqi forces from Kuwait
Balkans 1990s U.S. arms supplied to anti-Serb resistance in Croatia and Bosnia against U.N.-mandated embargo; in 1999, U.S. jets supported NATO against Serbia to prevent massacres in Kosovo
Somalia 1992-93 U.N. Security Council authorized creation of international force to supply humanitarian supplies; U.S. military involvement had no clear objective; U.S. troops pulled out after Black Hawk Down disaster
Libya 2011 France, U.K. asked U.N. Security Council for humanitarian operation in Benghazi; Russia, China abstained but did not veto; offensive continued until fall of Moammar Gadhafi

Administration officials argued that Assad's actions posed a direct threat to U.S. national security, providing Obama with a potential legal justification for launching a strike without authorization from the United Nations or Congress. However, officials did not detail how the U.S. was directly threatened by an attack contained within Syria's borders. Nor did they present concrete proof that Assad was responsible.

"Allowing the use of chemical weapons on a significant scale to take place without a response would present a significant challenge to, threat to the United States' national security," White House spokesman Jay Carney said.

Assad has denied using chemical weapons, calling the allegations "preposterous."

Obama is weighing a response focused narrowly on punishing Assad for violating international agreements that ban the use of chemical weapons, an act the president repeatedly has said would cross a "red line." Officials said the goal was not to drive the Syrian leader from power or impact the broader trajectory of Syria's bloody civil war, which is now in its third year.

"The options we are considering are not about regime change," Carney told reporters.

According to U.S. officials, the most likely operation would be largely sea-based, with the strikes coming primarily from Navy warships in the Mediterranean Sea. Fighter jets often are deployed to monitor the area and protect the ships, but Syria's robust air defense system makes air strikes more difficult and risky.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said military forces stand ready to strike Syria immediately if the commander in chief gives the order. The Navy has four destroyers in the eastern Mediterranean within range of targets inside Syria and also has warplanes in the region.

"We are ready to go," Hagel said during a television interview while traveling in Asia.

Ahead of any strike, the U.S. also plans to release additional intelligence it says will directly link Assad to the Aug. 21 attack in the Damascus suburbs. Syrian activists say hundreds of people were killed in the attack. A U.S. official said the intelligence report is expected to include "signals intelligence"—information gathered from intercepted communications.

Facebook: Governments demanded data on 38K users

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government agents in 74 countries demanded information on about 38,000 Facebook users in the first half of this year, with about half the orders coming from authorities in the United States, the company said Tuesday.

The social-networking giant is the latest technology company to release figures on how often governments seek information about its customers. Microsoft and Google have done the same.

As with the other companies, it's hard to discern much from Facebook's data, besides the fact that, as users around the globe flocked to the world's largest social network, police and intelligence agencies followed.

Facebook and Twitter have become organizing platforms for activists and, as such, have become targets for governments. During anti-government protests in Turkey in May and June, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan called social media "the worst menace to society."

At the time, Facebook denied it provided information about protest organizers to the Turkish government.

Data released Tuesday show authorities in Turkey submitted 96 requests covering 173 users. Facebook said it provided some information in about 45 of those cases, but there's no information on what was turned over and why.

"We fight many of these requests, pushing back when we find legal deficiencies and narrowing the scope of overly broad or vague requests," Colin Stretch, Facebook's general counsel company said in a blog post. "When we are required to comply with a particular request, we frequently share only basic user information, such as name."

Facebook spokeswoman Sarah Feinberg said the company stands by its assertions that it gave no information regarding the Turkey protests.

"The data included in the report related to Turkey is about child endangerment and emergency law enforcement requests," she said.

Facebook and other technology companies have been criticized for helping the National Security Agency secretly collect data on customers. Federal law gives government the authority to demand data without specific warrants, and while companies can fight requests in secret court hearings, it's an uphill battle.

Facebook turned over some data in response to about 60 percent of those requests.

It's not clear from the Facebook data how many of the roughly 26,000 government requests on 38,000 users were for law-enforcement purposes and how many were for intelligence gathering.

Bail at $3M for 2nd teen in veteran beating case

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Bail was set at $3 million Tuesday for a 16-year-old boy who is charged with killing a World War II veteran and contends the man was beaten to death because he shorted the teen and another boy on a sale of crack cocaine.

The allegation was sharply rebutted by friends of Delbert Belton, the 88-year-old veteran known as "Shorty."

"Shorty never did no drugs," said Ted Denison, a friend who added that the defendants were "smearing his name."

The drug-dealing claim is in a letter police found after they arrested Kenan Adams-Kinard early Monday morning, Spokane County Deputy Prosecutor Larry Haskell said during Tuesday's court hearing.

Haskell said the letter contends that Adams-Kinard and Demetrius L. Glenn, 16, were buying crack cocaine from Belton when the attack occurred Aug. 21. That notion was scoffed at by family members and friends of Belton, who was known as Shorty because he was little more than 5 feet tall.

AP
This World War II-era photo provided by Heritage Funeral Home of Spokane shows veteran Delbert Belton.

Haskell did not return several telephone calls seeking additional information on the drug-dealing claim.

Both teens are charged with first-degree murder and first-degree robbery. The charges carry a potential life sentence.

Police said Belton, who was wounded in the Battle of Okinawa, was beaten in his vehicle as he waited for a friend in the parking lot of an Eagles Lodge in north Spokane. Officers found Belton with serious head injuries, and his wallet had been taken. He died in the hospital Thursday.

The teens will be tried as adults, and Spokane County District Judge Debra Hayes on Tuesday ordered Adams-Kinard moved from a juvenile jail to the Spokane County Jail.

A lower bail of $2 million had been set for Glenn on Monday, but Hayes said Adams-Kinard is more of a flight risk if he's released. The judge noted that Glenn turned himself in Thursday night, while Adams-Kinard hid out for days before he was arrested.

The Associated Press does not generally identify minors accused of a crime but is naming the teens because of the severity of the charges.

New photos show marathon bomb suspect's surrender

AP
In this Friday, April 19, 2013 photo provided by the Massachusetts State Police, Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev leans over in a boat at the time of his capture by law enforcement authorities in Watertown, Mass.

BOSTON (AP)—Dramatic new photos show the Boston Marathon bombing suspect, his face bloodied, climbing out of a boat in a suburban backyard as heavily armed police officers wait for him to drop to the ground.

The images were among those a state police officer provided last month to Boston Magazine, which published some then and more on Tuesday.

Sgt. Sean Murphy took photos the April night police cornered Dzhokhar Tsarnaev in a dry-docked boat in Watertown, just outside Boston. He wasn't authorized to release the photos but said he was angry about a Rolling Stone magazine cover he felt glamorized Tsarnaev.

The new photos include more shots of Tsarnaev coming out of the boat, his head bloody and a red laser trained on his head. They also show him dropping to the ground, where officers and medical personnel rushed to treat him. Other photos show tense federal, state and local police officials meeting in a command center and SWAT teams gathering in the streets earlier in the day.

The surgeon who treated Tsarnaev after his capture said he had been shot through the face and had a fractured skull, among other injuries. Tsarnaev was wounded during a confrontation with police a day after authorities released photos of him and his older brother as suspects in the deadly April 15 marathon bombing.

Tsarnaev has pleaded not guilty to charges in the bombing, which killed three people and injured more than 260 others. His older brother, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was killed following a gunbattle with police.

Asia

Openness in Bo trial ended when he accused bosses

BEIJING (AP)—As a Chinese court poured out details from disgraced politician Bo Xilai's trial, it released two transcripts that accidentally revealed the limits of China's rare display of judicial openness.

The first, the original, mentioned a claim from Bo that his superiors had told him to cover up an aide's disappearance. That transcript was soon replaced with one that made no mention of the claim, or of Bo's Communist Party bosses.

Beijing was happy to let Bo call a former police chief a liar, or his wife mentally ill, as prosecutors described his alleged individual economic and administrative misdeeds. But that redaction shows how focused the party leadership was on keeping itself out of the proceedings.

The Jinan Intermediate Court released a surprising amount of details from Bo's trial, issuing regular microblog posts and same-day transcripts that included testimony, cross-examination, details of evidence and defense statements. But the partial openness is less a sign of legal reform than of the leadership's desire to lend credibility to a process believed to have a foregone conclusion: a lengthy jail sentence for Bo for dragging the ruling Communist Party into a lurid scandal of corruption, murder and betrayal.

"Publicizing details of the trial has paid off" for the authorities, said Chen Jieren, an independent political commentator who said the public could see for themselves the extent of Bo's alleged corruption.

"Before the trial, there were many supporters of Bo who said it was just part of a political struggle," Chen said. "Now there's solid evidence. Everybody has seen that, even if there was no political struggle, Bo's crimes still exist."

AP

In this file photo taken Thursday Aug. 22, 2013 and released by the Jinan Intermediate People's Court, Bo Xilai, center, stands on trial at the court in eastern China's Shandong province.

Bo, formerly Chongqing city's top leader, has denied charges that he netted $4.3 million through corruption, that he interfered with a murder investigation involving his wife, and that he caused his former police chief Wang Lijun to attempt to defect to the U.S., embarrassing the party and setting off the scandal.

In the five-day trial that closed Monday, the court's openness was seen as unprecedented in recent decades for such politically charged proceedings. Foreign journalists were kept out of the courtroom, however, and the altered transcript shows the leadership's desire to erase any mention of politics.

In the first version of one of Monday's transcripts, a prosecutor rejected Bo's argument that he was following orders from above to fabricate a medical certificate to hide Wang's disappearance when he fled to the American consulate. The prosecutor said the fake certificate was issued before superiors' orders came down and that in any case, the directive didn't include such an order.

The transcript then disappeared from the site. It was replaced shortly after by one that excluded the prosecutor's reference to Bo's argument.

That deletion points to the party's sensitivity about being implicated in Bo's alleged crimes.

It is unknown what other details have been similarly omitted, but many legal and political experts in China said that overall, the transcripts seem to have presented the proceedings fairly.

"Don't disparage the director of this drama. He's revealed our current era to a great extent, but without losing control," wrote Luo Changping, a prominent editor, on his microblog. "And don't belittle the defendant for his awkward way of cooperating in completing this drama. There's never been a focal point quite like this in causing people to gather around and think. A bigger common factor is that at least, from here, we can strive for rule of law."

But even as the court released details from Bo's trial, there were strong reasons to doubt it would usher in greater openness in China, or fairness in a judicial system controlled by the party. Authorities have been waging a crackdown on online expression and civil society, detaining journalists who have exposed alleged corruption and arresting bloggers and rights activists who urge officials to declare their assets.

Bo's trial itself was designed to avoid references to politically thorny issues that could spark factional disputes in the party. The charges against Bo avoided widely held accusations that he trampled over the law in waging an anti-mafia crackdown in Chongqing, including illegally seizing millions of yuan in assets from entrepreneurs and using summary trials to convict them based on confessions extracted using torture.

Frenchman in Cambodia gets 7 years for child sex

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—A Cambodian court on Tuesday sentenced a Frenchman with a history of allegations of child molestation to seven years in prison for paying for sex with minors.

Phnom Penh Municipal Court found Jacques Philippe Albertini, 71, guilty of sexually molesting three boys and paying them up to $10 per encounter. The court ordered Albertini to pay 15 million riel ($3,750) in compensation to each of the boys, all aged 12 at the time they were abused.

Albertini has maintained his innocence, and his lawyer says they will appeal Tuesday's decision. During his trial on Aug. 13, Albertini said he had given the boys money out of simple kindness.

Poverty and poor law enforcement have made Cambodia a magnet for foreign pedophiles, but in recent years police and courts have increasingly cracked down on sex offenders.

The child protection group Action Pour Les Enfants said Albertini has a record of alleged child molestation spanning 16 years and three countries. It said French authorities questioned Albertini in the 1990s about alleged sexual acts with minors, and he was charged in Thailand in 1999 and 2000 with abusing boys, but the charges were dropped.

Since coming to Cambodia in 2004, he was arrested twice previously on suspicion of child abuse, the group said, but avoided judgment when the children's families dropped their complaints in the first case and the court declared there was insufficient evidence in the second.

He was arrested again in May 2012 after police received fresh complaints from families.

Police: Woman removed 6-year-old's eyes in China

BEIJING (AP)—Police in China say a woman tricked a 6-year-old boy into going into a field, and then removed his eyeballs.

The boy's brutal ordeal happened Saturday in a rural area of Linfen city in Shanxi province, the city's police bureau said in a statement.

A police officer confirmed Wednesday that the boy's eyeballs had been removed. The officer, who only gave his surname, Liu, said he couldn't speculate on a motive because the investigation was continuing. "We are sparing no efforts trying to solve this case," he added.

Liu said the two eyeballs were found at the scene, and that the corneas hadn't been removed. State media previously had raised the possibility that the boy's corneas were taken for sale because of a donor shortage in China.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taliban kill 12 Afghan civilians, aid workers

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Insurgents shot and killed 12 civilians in two separate incidents over the weekend, including six aid workers employed on government projects, officials said Tuesday. The bodies of six victims were found in the Gulran district of western Herat province, said Jamel Danish, media adviser for the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation. Five were Afghan employees of the International Rescue Committee who had been kidnapped on Sunday, and the U.S-based group said it was temporarily suspending operations. It has worked in Afghanistan since 1988. The sixth victim worked for the ministry.

UN rights chief meets Sri Lankan war survivors

MULLIVAIKKAL, Sri Lanka (AP)—Survivors of Sri Lanka's civil war complained on Tuesday to the United Nations' human rights chief about missing relatives, military land grabs and a life without basic facilities more than four years after the end of the quarter-century war. U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay visited Mullivaikkal village in northern Sri Lanka, the site of the final battle between government troops and separatist Tamil Tiger rebels, where hundreds of civilians are alleged to have died. Pillay told the survivors that she will raise their complaints with government authorities when she meets them later this week.

China's communists set reform meeting for November

BEIJING (AP)—China's ruling communists will meet in November to discuss deepening reforms, the party said Tuesday. No details were given, but the meeting is likely to focus on economic fine tuning. The announcement followed a meeting of the party's 25-member Politburo that adopted plans for streamlining local government, and preventing and punishing corruption over the four years until 2017. A party notice gave no information about the agenda for the 18th Party Central Committee's Third Plenary Session to be held in November. However, such sessions have in the past been a platform for the announcement of economic programs.

China says no Japan meeting at G-20

BEIJING (AP)—China on Tuesday ruled out a meeting between the Chinese and Japanese leaders at next month's Group of 20 summit in Russia, citing a festering territorial dispute and provocations by Tokyo. Japan's failure to "broaden its mindset, face historical facts and take concrete actions to remove obstacles" make a meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe impossible, Vice Foreign Minister Li Baodong was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency. "Under such circumstances how can we arrange the kind of bilateral meeting as wanted by the Japanese side?" Li said.

New Zealand botulism scare likely a false alarm

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A botulism scare that damaged New Zealand's international reputation for providing top quality dairy products was likely a false alarm. New Zealand government officials said Wednesday they found no sign of botulism bacteria after retesting ingredients used in recalled milk products. Dairy company Fonterra sparked a global recall of infant formula this month after announcing it had discovered the presence of botulism bacteria in some of its whey protein concentrate. But New Zealand's Ministry of Primary Industries announced Wednesday that its own extensive retesting of the concentrate indicated the presence of another, less dangerous type of bacteria but not the botulism bacteria.

Japanese regulator raises alert for nuclear leaks

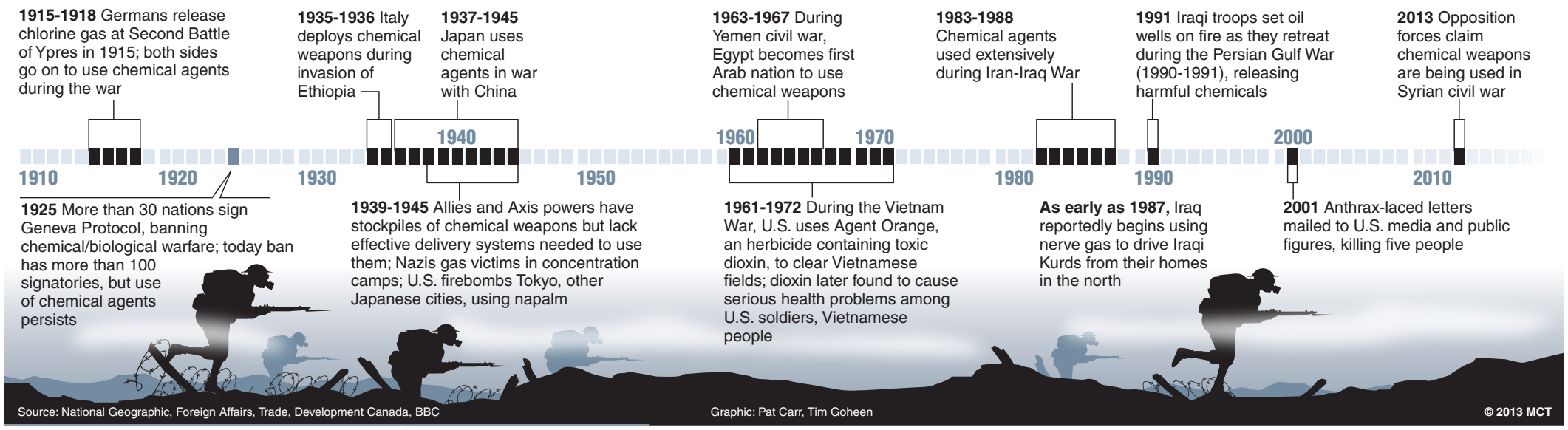
TOKYO (AP)—Japan's nuclear regulator has upgraded the rating of a leak of radiation-contaminated water at its tsunami-wrecked nuclear plant to a "serious incident" on an international scale. Nuclear Regulation Authority official Yukiko Fukui said Wednesday the severity of the Aug. 19's leak was raised to level 3 from the original level 1. The Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear plant suffered triple meltdowns after the massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011. The plant's operator is spraying tons of water into its reactors to cool them and is struggling to contain the resulting waste water. Tokyo Electric Power Co. said 300 tons (300,000 liters, 80,000 gallons) of water had escaped from one tank and some may have reached the sea through a rainwater gutter.

World

Chemical warfare throughout the ages

If the Syrian government is using chemical weapons, as opposition groups maintain, the tactic would be horrific, but not new. One of the first known uses was during the Peloponnesian War (431-404 B.C.), when Spartans used arsenic smoke. A thousand years later, the Greeks spread gases during the siege of Constantinople (637 A.D.). Unionists proposed using chemical agents during the U.S. Civil War (1861-1865), but rejected the idea. Then during World War I, the first modern use of chemical warfare, more than 125,000 tons of toxins were dispersed, killing more than 100,000 people and injuring many more.

Modern-day uses of chemical warfare


1915-1918 Germans release chlorine gas at Second Battle of Ypres in 1915; both sides go on to use chemical agents during the war
1935-1936 Italy deploys chemical weapons during invasion of Ethiopia
1937-1945 Japan uses chemical agents in war with China
1963-1967 During Yemen civil war, Egypt becomes first Arab nation to use chemical weapons
1983-1988 Chemical agents used extensively during Iran-Iraq War
1991 Iraqi troops set oil wells on fire as they retreat during the Persian Gulf War (1990-1991), releasing harmful chemicals
2013 Opposition forces claim chemical weapons are being used in Syrian civil war
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010
1925 More than 30 nations sign Geneva Protocol, banning chemical/biological warfare; today ban has more than 100 signatories, but use of chemical agents persists
1939-1945 Allies and Axis powers have stockpiles of chemical weapons but lack effective delivery systems needed to use them; Nazis gas victims in concentration camps; U.S. firebombs Tokyo, other Japanese cities, using napalm
1961-1972 During the Vietnam War, U.S. uses Agent Orange, an herbicide containing toxic dioxin, to clear Vietnamese fields; dioxin later found to cause serious health problems among U.S. soldiers, Vietnamese people
As early as 1987, Iraq reportedly begins using nerve gas to drive Iraqi Kurds from their homes in the north
2001 Anthrax-laced letters mailed to U.S. media and public figures, killing five people

Source: National Geographic, Foreign Affairs, Trade, Development Canada, BBC

Graphic: Pat Carr, Tim Goheen

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Momentum grows for military action against Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Momentum appeared to build Tuesday for Western military action against Syria, with the U.S. and France saying they are in position for a strike, while the government in Damascus vowed to use all possible measures to repel it.

The prospect of a dramatic U.S.-led intervention into Syria's civil war stemmed from the West's assertion—still not endorsed by U.N. inspectors—that President Bashar Assad's government was responsible for an alleged chemical attack on civilians outside Damascus on Aug. 21 that the group Doctors Without Borders says killed 355 people. Assad denies the claim.

The Arab League also threw its weight behind calls for punitive action, blaming the Syrian government for the attack and calling for those responsible to be brought to justice.

British Prime Minister David Cameron recalled Parliament to hold an emergency vote Thursday on his country's response. It is unlikely that any international military action would begin before then.

U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said U.S. military forces stand ready to strike Syria at once if President Barack Obama gives the order, and French President Francois Hollande said France was "ready to punish those who took the heinous decision to gas innocents."

Obama is weighing a response focused narrowly on punishing Assad for violating international agreements that ban the use of chemical weapons. Officials said the goal was not to drive Assad from power or impact the broader trajectory of Syria's bloody civil war, now in its third year.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Monday the West should be under no illusion that bombing Syrian military targets would help end the violence in Syria, an ally of Moscow, and he pointed to the volatile situations in Iraq and Libya that he said resulted from foreign military intervention.

Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said his country would use "all means available" to defend itself.

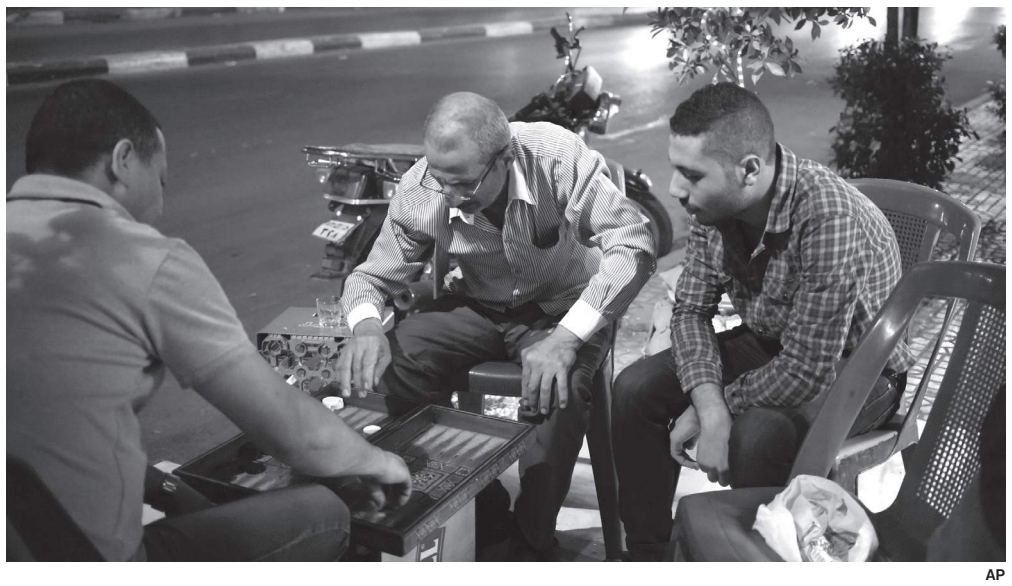
"We have the means to defend ourselves and we will surprise everyone," he said.

At a news conference in Damascus, al-Moallem challenged Washington to present proof to back up its accusations and he also likened the allegations to false American charges in 2003 that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction before the U.S.-led invasion of that country.

"They have a history of lies—Iraq," he said.

Vice President Joe Biden said there was no question that Assad was responsible for the attack—the highest-ranking U.S. official to say so—and the White House dismissed as "fanciful" the notion that anyone other than Assad could be to blame.

Cairo nighttime curfew sparks defiance and boredom



AP

In this Sunday Aug. 25. 2013 photo, Egyptian men play backgammon outside a juice bar hours after a night time curfew went into effect in the Garden City neighborhood of Cairo Egypt.

CAIRO (AP)—In every corner of the Egyptian capital, a bustling city of 18 million that rarely sleeps, people are locked up in their homes at night under a military-imposed curfew that has driven people up the walls, sometimes literally.

To kill time, one said he spent the night counting flowers on his wallpaper—a staggering 865. Another tested how many cucumbers he can fit in a refrigerator drawer. A third calculated the speed of an ant crawling on his balcony rail.

The curfew has been a shock to Cairo, a city where cafes stay packed into the night and parents routinely take their children out for dinners nearing midnight. The two-week-old military-backed government's curfew, after violent unrest following the July 3 coup that ousted President Mohammed Morsi, slashed the typical Cairo 24-hour life to just 13 hours.

Forced to close early, businesses and restaurants are hurting in a city where nightlife is a key source of income. The city's metro system reportedly loses $71,500 a day.

So how have people handled what some online have referred to as "British boarding school hell?"

A few have defiantly attempted to break the curfew, dodging the abundant police and military checkpoints on major highways and overpasses. They have organized underground slumber parties, publicized among friends via social media and mass text messages.

One cafe in the upscale neighborhood of Zamalek even opened for the first time less than two weeks ago and almost all its business has come after curfew hours. On a recent night, tables were full of people smoking shishas, the water pipe tobacco.

"The first few days we were conforming to the curfew, but then people demanded we stay open later and so we did," said manager Mohammed, who asked his last name and the name of the cafe not be published to avoid reprisals. "People are just not used to sitting at home or adhering (to rules)."

Attacks on young vigilantes kills 20 in Nigeria

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP)—Two attacks by suspected members of a Nigerian Islamic sect have killed at least 20 members of a vigilante group out to fight the sect, residents and an official said Tuesday.

Insurgents crept up on six members of the group known as the Civilian Joint Task Force who were sleeping in a northeastern village. The suspected insurgents then shot them Monday night, a military official said. Four gunmen carried out that attack, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not permitted to speak to the press.

"The attack took place in the border town of Damasak, 187 kilometers (116 miles) away from Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state and birthplace of the Boko Haram ideology," he said. "The report we got from Damasak confirmed that the six members of the vigilante group were also jewelry vendors who took time off to attend the weekly Damasak Market to sell their wares," he said, adding that the sect members then trailed them to where they were sleeping.

The deaths were confirmed by Civilian-JTF official Abubakar Malum, who said the men ranged in age from 20 to 36 years old.

An Associated Press reporter saw the bodies were packed up in a pick-up truck on Tuesday at one of JTF's headquarters in Maiduguri.

The attack came less than two days after suspected Boko Haram members killed 14 young vigilantes in neighboring Bama, just 87 kilometers (54 miles) from Maiduguri, the military official said.

The attackers stormed the town disguised in military uniforms and "they used knives instead of guns to prevent the military from hearing the gunshots," and decapitated the young men, he said.

Iran to debate suing US over 1953 coup support

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's parliament has approved fast tracking debate on a bill that seeks to sue the U.S. for its involvement in the 1953 coup that overthrew the country's democratically elected prime minister.

Lawmakers will begin deliberations Wednesday over how to launch a formal complaint accusing the U.S. government of intervening in Iran's internal affairs and inflicting damages on the Persian state. The 290-seat house approved the urgent debate of the bill Tuesday in a session broadcast on state radio.

New declassified documents revealed recently offer more details of how the CIA orchestrated the overthrow of Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadegh 60 years ago.

The coup restored the oppressive regime of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. He was overthrown in the 1979 Iranian revolution by followers of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Environment

FIRST FRIDAY FILMS PRESENTS

4 films, 4 stories, 4 cameras focused on the environment

First Friday Films will be showing four short environmental films on Friday, Sept. 6, at 6:30pm at American Memorial Park in coordination with Coastal Month to celebrate our coasts and the resources that they provide.

The four films being presented are from the Centre for Science Communication in Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand. First will be *Bluffed*, a 2006 film by Katie McSweeney about fishermen taking a stand to save their livelihood and a national icon—the bluffed oyster. Next, *Beyond the Kelp* by Amy Taylor and Rohan Currey (2005) takes us to the shores to find Hector's dolphins and see how these amazing animals connect with the people of New Zealand. Third will be *Titans of the Coral Sea*, a film by Jordan Plotsky (2008) examining what happens when a fishing village lets the modern world in and their ancient ways become lost along with their livelihood.

The 2011 film *Tangled Waters* will let the audience jump in and wind their way through a comedic journey of sharks, surf, and local politics to discover how a small community brought an end to a 40-year practice.

The 2011 film *Tangled Waters* will be the evening's finale, directed by Saipan resident Nicole Schafer and Andrew Scott. Their 2011 film will let the audience jump in and wind their way through a comedic journey of sharks, surf, and local politics to discover how a small community brought an end to a 40-year practice. After the film, director Schafer will be available for a Q&A session.

First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management and the Humanities Council with support from other organizations. These films are sponsored by Coastal Resources Management. As always, our film events are free and open to the public. This event will run about 90 minutes.

For more information about First Friday Films, email fffsaipan@gmail.com or check out www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. ***(PR)***

Ecuador groups rally to keep oil interests out of swath of Amazon

By JIM WYSS
THE MIAMI HERALD

BOGOTA, Colombia—The fight over a pristine swath of Ecuador's Amazon began taking shape in recent days, as defenders of the area laid the groundwork for a national referendum aimed at keeping oil companies out of the region.

But with hurdles ahead, including opposition from President Rafael Correa, it's far from clear what will happen to the ITT oil block that the administration says holds 20 percent of the nation's crude reserves.

Earlier this month, Correa announced that the country was cancelling a six-year-old plan that aimed to keep more than 840 million barrels of oil untapped in perpetuity beneath the ITT if the international community would contribute $3.6 billion. The money never materialized, and Correa said he had no choice but to tap the oil, which lies in a remote part of the 2.4 million-acre Yasuni National Park.

The Yasuni-ITT Initiative, as it is known, is popular in Ecuador, where more than 80 percent of the population backs the plan. And that has led to a grassroots effort to save the forest.

On Thursday, a coalition of environmental and indigenous groups took the first step in that fight by taking a proposed referendum question to the Constitutional Court. The question reads: Are you in agreement that the Ecuadorean government keep the crude in the ITT, known as block 43, underground indefinitely?

The court has to rule if the question is constitutional. But that's only half the battle. In order to get the question before the public, the groups would need congressional support or to collect more than 584,000 signatures—5 percent of all registered voters—to trigger the plebiscite.

Correa says the country needs the oil resources to fight poverty, and he has bristled at the idea of a referendum. He has accused independent media, with which he has a long-running battle, of playing politics with the issue.

"Now the biggest environmentalists are the mercantilist newspapers," he wrote on Twitter. "If we have a national referendum, we'll also propose that newspapers be digital-only to save paper and avoid indiscriminate logging. We'll see who's who. Don't let yourselves be fooled."

Correa has said that the state-run oil company will use cutting edge techniques to minimize the impact of oil exploration and that less than one tenth of one percent of Yasuni National Park will be affected. Conservationists worry about any industrial activity in the area that is one of the most biodiverse spots on the planet, brimming with unknown species.

The decision to pull the plug on the process means the government will have to return a portion of the funds received. Authorities have said the Yasuni-ITT initiative generated some $337 million in donations—but much of that was technical support and other noncash cooperation.

The United Nations trust fund that was set up in 2010 to receive donations has $10.2 million in the account. Under the rules of the fund, only those who made donations larger than $50,000—and requested a certificate of guarantee—will get their money back. On Friday, the U.N. said it was up to the Ecuadoran government to provide information about the amount of funds under guarantee.

Ecuadorean officials are expected to meet in coming days to decide how to unwind the trust fund.

On Thursday, Ivonne Baki—the government's chief fundraiser for the project—defended her work. Speaking at a farewell event, she said that with a budget of $7.3 million over three years, her team of 15 people managed to make the initiative the most "emblematic" project of Correa's administration.

She also said she would keep defending the park and called on the president to create a biodiversity study center to share the forests' knowledge "with the world."

Scientists seeking answers for outbreak of dolphin deaths

By ERIKA BOLSTAD
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON—A virus similar to measles in humans may be responsible for the deaths of more than 333 bottlenose dolphins along the East Coast this summer, researchers said Tuesday.

The morbillivirus outbreak extends from coastal areas of New York to North Carolina, causing dolphin deaths in numbers not seen since a similar fatal outbreak on the Eastern Seaboard 26 years ago.

Since July 1, researchers have found 333 dead dolphins on or near shore. Of those deaths, 174 were in Virginia, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Tuesday. Generally, scientists find about 33 stranded bottlenose dolphins a year.

The virus likely will continue killing dolphins as long as there are susceptible animals that can be infected, said Teri Rowles of the NOAA Fisheries Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program.

"We don't have a lot of insight into when it will stop," she said.

There's no practical way to immunize wild dolphins, so there's little federal wildlife officials can do about the outbreak other than to monitor it and try to figure out why it's happening and what may have caused it.

Based on the behavior of the 1987 outbreak, researchers suspect the virus will spread south as the bottlenose dolphins head to warmer waters for the winter. It likely will last until it has killed off all but those dolphins that have developed an immunity to the virus, said Jerry Saliki of the University of Georgia.

The 1980s outbreak killed 742 dolphins; it wasn't until several years later that researchers determined what killed them. Scientists used tools developed in a dolphin die-off in the Mediterranean to help determine what killed the bottlenose dolphins in the 1980s.

Researchers are looking at what could have caused the latest outbreak among bottlenose dolphins. Such outbreaks are common in other animal populations, scientists said, although the virus doesn't jump from species that aren't closely related. Humans can't get the dolphin form of the virus, for example. But researchers have traced morbillivirus outbreaks in African lions to unvaccinated domestic dogs. And primates also get measles, Saliki said.

Because they're looking at migratory stocks, scientists are working under a hypothesis that the dolphins that summer off the Virginia and North Carolina coasts move south in the winter, said Lance Garrison of the NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center.

"So one of the things that we'll need to evaluate—if strandings are elevated along the southeast coast during the winter months—is whether that's simply because the southern migratory stock is moving into those waters and then stranding," he said, or whether the dolphins are catching the virus from other animals in the south.

Field Stranding Tech. Danielle Monaghan shows a dead dolphin in a metal container at the Mammal Stranding Center Brigantine, on August 1, 2013. Twenty-one dead dolphins have washed up along the South Jersey coast over the past two weeks.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/MCT

Life & Style

‘Girls Gone Wild’ creator gets 270 days in jail

LOS ANGELES (AP)—”Girls Gone Wild” creator Joe Francis was sentenced Tuesday to 270 days in jail and three years’ probation for choking a woman and repeatedly slamming her head to the ground at his Los Angeles mansion in 2011.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Nancy L. Newman also ordered the 40-year-old Francis to complete an anger management course and attend 52 sessions of psychological counseling, according to Deputy City Attorney Mitchell Fox.

A jury in May convicted Francis of five misdemeanor charges—three counts of false imprisonment, one count of assault by means likely to cause great bodily injury, and one count of dissuading a witness from reporting a crime.

Francis’ attorney Steve Levine said key details of the case were proven to be false in court, and he is appealing the decision.

“Joe has always maintained his innocence,” Levine said. He added that the judge “still came to a very fair and measured decision.”

According to Fox, Francis met three women on Jan. 29, 2011, at a college graduation party at the Supper Club in Hollywood. He grabbed the arm of one of the girls and took her to his limo, and the two others followed, believing they’d be taken to their car. Instead, they ended up in a gated area of Francis’ Bel Air home.

Francis

Francis appeared to be interested in one of the women and tried to lead her away, but her friend pulled back, Fox said.

Francis then “jumped on the friend, took her to the ground, choked her, slammed her head against the ground, dragged her across the ground, and when she got back up, did it several more times,” Fox said.

He then apparently told the women they were trespassing and had to leave. The women said they were going to call the police, and Francis yelled to “go ahead and call the police,” the prosecutor said.

Francis told the girls he “owns the police” and that officers wouldn’t arrest him, Fox added.

Judge Newman denied Francis’ request for a new trial Tuesday, but sentenced him to less than the four years in county jail urged by prosecutors.

Levine said Francis would be released from custody soon after posting a $250,000 bond Tuesday. He’ll remain free pending the outcome of the appeal.

The day after Francis was convicted in Los Angeles, he told The Hollywood Reporter that members of the jury were “retarded,” and said “they should all be lined up and shot.”

Francis later apologized for his comments.

“This is one of those cases where being a celebrity did not help him at all,” Levine said.

Francis has had a number of past legal troubles. Last year, a jury found him guilty of defaming casino mogul Steve Wynn on multiple occasions, including on ABC’s national morning show. Francis claimed the creator of some of Las Vegas’ most upscale resorts threatened to kill him over a gambling debt.

Dozens of other lawsuits have targeted Francis, who built a porn empire producing and marketing videos of young women exposing themselves on camera.

‘Twerking’ bounces into Oxford dictionary

LONDON (AP)—Twerking, the rump-busting up-and-down dance move long beloved on America’s hip-hop scene, has officially gone mainstream. It’s got the English dictionary entry to prove it.

Britain’s Oxford Dictionaries said the rapid-fire gyrations employed by U.S. pop starlet Miley Cyrus to bounce her way to the top of the charts had become increasingly visible in the past 12 months and would be added to its publications under the entry: “Twerk, verb.”

Although Cyrus’s eye-popping moves at Monday’s MTV Video Music Awards may have been many viewers’ first introduction to the practice, Oxford Dictionaries’ Katherine Connor Martin said “twerking” was some two decades old.

“There are many theories about the origin of this word, and since it arose in oral use, we may never know the answer for sure,” Martin said. “We think the most likely theory is that it is an alteration of work, because that word has a history of being used in similar ways, with dancers being encouraged to `work it.’ The `t’ could be a result of blending with another word such as twist or twitch.”

“Twerk” will be added to the dictionary as part of its quarterly update, which includes words such as “selfie,” the word typically used to describe pouty smartphone self-portraits, “digital detox” for time spent way from Facebook and Twitter, and “Bitcoin,” for the nationless electronic currency whose gyrations have also caught the world’s eye.

Oxford Dictionaries is responsible for a range of reference works, including Oxford Dictionaries Online, which focuses on modern usage, and the historically-focused Oxford English Dictionary, which probably won’t be adding “twerk” to its venerable pages any time soon.

The definition: “Twerk, v.: dance to popular music in a sexually provocative manner involving thrusting hip movements and a low, squatting stance.”

Q&A: Lonely Planet founder’s new book ‘Dark Lands’

NEW YORK (AP)—Tony Wheeler wrote his first travel book with his wife Maureen in 1973 after driving across Europe and Asia. It sold 1,500 copies in a week and launched a guidebook empire called Lonely Planet.

The Wheelers made a fortune when the BBC bought the company in 2007 before the recession, but the BBC sold the company earlier this year at a huge loss. Meanwhile Wheeler, 66, is still doing what he built the brand on: traveling the world and writing about it.

His newest book, “Dark Lands,” recounts his recent adventures in countries troubled by ethnic strife, drug wars, colonial history and fiscal ruin. His itinerary included Colombia, where he was mugged; Congo, where he was arrested for taking a photo; the Palestinian territories, where kids pelted him with stones; and Pakistan, where he visited the site of Osama bin Laden’s assassination.

He also visited Haiti, Zimbabwe, Papua New Guinea and Nauru, a Polynesian island where the locals got rich mining guano (bird poop fertilizer) then squandered their wealth on an airline and other extravagances.

“Dark Lands” is a follow-up to Wheeler’s 2007 book, “Bad Lands,” which was about visiting “Axis of Evil” countries Iran, Iraq, North Korea, and other notorious spots. In a phone interview, Wheeler talked about “Dark Lands” and Lonely Planet.

AP

This photo taken Feb. 19, 2012, shows Lonely Planet co-founder Tony Wheeler at the crash site of Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto’s Mitsubishi G4M bomber, known as a ‘Betty,” on the island of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea. Yamamoto was the mastermind behind the attack on Pearl Harbor. His aircraft was shot down on April 13, 1943.

AP: You were mugged, arrested and pelted with stones on this trip. Do those count as highlights?

Wheeler: They do count in a way. But I’d also say climbing up the Nyiragongo volcano in Congo was a highlight. It was like a children’s picture book of what a volcano should be. Smoke, dust, a big empty muddy hole, lava bubbling up. It was noisy; it smelt. It was perfect.

Also going into the jungle in Papua New Guinea to get to Admiral Yamamoto’s aircraft. (Isoroku Yamamoto masterminded the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor; his aircraft was shot down in 1943.)

A third one would be in Haiti, listening to music in the Oloffson Hotel on Thursday night. It’s such a buzz being there. Time flashes by and before you know it, it’s 2 a.m.

AP: Would any of the countries in “Dark Lands” work for a conventional vacation?

Wheeler: All of those countries have trouble. Some you cannot see an easy solution, others, well, things are getting better. The best example is Colombia. On most measures, Colombia is doing far better (with the decline of drug violence) than it was a couple of years ago. It has a lot of attractions. People say it’s the best Spanish colonial architecture in South America, and Cartagena is one of the most beautiful cities. OK, I got mugged, but you can get mugged anywhere.

AP: Your father was a manager for British Airways. Where did you live growing up?

Wheeler: I lived in Pakistan from the time I was a year old to when I was 5. I’ve got very clear memories of it. Then I spent a year in England, then two in the Bahamas, then another year in England, then Detroit and Baltimore. I came back to England to finish school and went to university and did an engineering degree. I spent a couple of years as a car engineer.

AP: Why do you still list “engineer” as your occupation on visas?

Wheeler: If applying for a visa or arriving in a country, the two things I always fall back on are engineer or schoolteacher. It’s really safe. The things you don’t want to be are a photographer, a writer or a journalist. And the worst thing possible—you don’t want to be a doctor. If you’re a doctor, immediately people will be ill.

AP: Many places that were once off-the-beaten path have become overrun, and sometimes Lonely Planet recommendations contributed to that. How was this trip different?

Wheeler: You go back to places you really loved when you went there, that were sort of empty, and now everybody knows them. I think of Bali: Now everybody’s got an “I’ve been to Bali” T-shirt. But with “Dark Lands,” I showed that you can still go to places where people are having amazing adventures. The Congo, for example, I only met a half-dozen tourists the whole time I was there and all of them were writing a book about it.

AP: How do you feel about the changes at Lonely Planet? Even before you sold LP, the brand had begun to shed its backpacker-budget image with more upscale guides.

Wheeler: People say, “Oh, that’s the shoestring budget, backpackers’ young people guide”—but we’re not that any more. I’m OK with it, but it’s partly in a way why we thought it was time for us to move out. They were doing a lot of things I could see the reasons for doing, but it’s not my first love.

AP: Looking back on the timing of the sale, don’t you feel incredibly lucky? You sold before the recession and before digital media started to outpace print.

Wheeler: There’s no question we sold out at the perfect moment. It wasn’t just the recession that hurt Lonely Planet—we also sold out just as the Australian dollar took off. (Lonely Planet is based in Melbourne, where Wheeler lives, and the surge in Australian currency resulted in foreign exchange losses.)

AP: Where is the brand’s current owner, NC2 Media, headed?

Wheeler: We spent a bit of time talking to NC2. Maureen met Daniel (Houghton, NC2’s executive director and now LP chief operating officer) three or four times. He came out to Australia when the deal was being finalized, and I had dinner with him in London. What he’s doing, I have no idea. I think if he just sat there and did nothing, it might keep going wonderfully. But the jury is out. He says they’re concentrating on the digital side, and that was one of the things LP was putting a lot of effort into even before we left.

AP: Are there untapped areas of opportunity?

Wheeler: One of the things about LP that the BBC didn’t really pick up on is that we look at it as an English-language brand, but it’s very big in other languages. I’ve been to Italy twice this year and we’ve got a huge following there. We’re the biggest seller of guidebooks in the Italian language. I get recognized on the street once a year in other places, but in Italy it happens a lot.

And in China, it’s just astonishing. ... You see hordes of Chinese tourists on those packaged tours, but for young people and university students, so many of whom speak English, they would love to be out there doing independent travel. LP is part of that image.

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PLANES [CC,DV] (PG) (445 PM) 710 PM
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS [CC,DV] (PG) 725 PM
PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS 3D [CC,DV] (PG) (425 PM)
WE'RE THE MILLERS [CC,DV] (R) 700 PM

Times For 08/29 © 2013www.REGmovies.com

Selena Gomez: Don't ask what Swift said at VMAs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Did Taylor Swift really utter an expletive to Selena Gomez when One Direction and former love interest Harry Styles took the stage for the MTV Video Music Awards?

Don't ask Selena Gomez.

Swift's seemingly foul-mouthed reaction shot lit up social networks and became an instant GIF. But Gomez reprimanded a reporter who asked what Swift said at the premiere of Gomez's new film, "Getaway," on Monday.

"Don't try that with me," Gomez told him.

The young star later said that she's protective of her friends.

"I think girls need to be more supportive of each other. I definitely agree with that. I'm all about that," she said. "Taylor has been one of those girls. We have been friends for five years. She is very strong. She doesn't care what people think and she inspires me."

Gomez won best pop video for "Come & Get It" at the ceremony Sunday and said she didn't expect to win.

"So I am watching the beautiful boys, One Direction who are not bad to look at, then they said my name. I looked at Taylor ... it was surreal. Because I do put so much work into my music. There's so much talk of everything. But I did put my heart and soul into it so I was really excited. It was great."

AP

Actress/singer Selena Gomez arrives at the premiere of "Getaway" at the Regency Village Theater on Monday, Aug. 26, 2013 in Los Angeles.

Obama says 'The Butler' movie made him tear up

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says he got teary while watching "Lee Daniels' The Butler," a movie about a black White House servant who worked for several presidents.

Obama says he reflected on the effects of discrimination on a generation of people. He says that generation displayed dignity and tenacity and, quote, "put up with a whole lot of mess because they hoped for something better for their kids."

Obama discussed the movie with radio host Tom Joyner and co-host Sybil Wilkes of the "Tom Joyner Morning Show."

Obama said White House butlers have been kind and warm to his family. He suspects that part of it is they look at his daughters, Malia and Sasha, and they say, quoting, "Well, this looks like my grandbaby or this looks like my daughter."

'42' actor Boseman to play James Brown in biopic

AP

Actor Chadwick Boseman, right, is seen Sunday, April 14, 2013 during the second half of the NBA basketball game between the Indiana Pacers and the New York Knicks in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—After bringing Jackie Robinson to the big screen, Chadwick Boseman is going to try another icon: James Brown.

Boseman has been cast to play the Godfather of Soul in a planned biopic by "The Help" director Tate Taylor. The film from Universal Pictures and Imagine Entertainment is currently untitled. Mick Jagger and Brian Grazer are among the producers.

The project has been in development for years, with various actors and directors attached. It's set to finally begin shooting this fall in Mississippi.

In an interview Monday with The Associated Press, Taylor said of the great soul singer: "Those are big shoes to fill."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Caroline Kennedy to join March on Washington rally

WASHINGTON (AP)—Caroline Kennedy is joining the lineup of speakers commemorating the 50th anniversary of the civil rights March on Washington at the Lincoln Memorial. Organizers say Kennedy, the daughter of President John F. Kennedy, will speak Wednesday, along with Lynda Johnson Robb, the daughter of President Lyndon Johnson. Other speakers will include show business personalities Oprah Winfrey, Forest Whitaker, Jamie Foxx, President Barack Obama and former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter. Performers will include singers BeBe Winans, LeAnn Rimes and the girl group Identity4-Pop, among others. The "Let Freedom Ring" commemoration is scheduled to run for five hours. Bell-ringing commemorations are also planned across the U.S. at more than 100 churches and other sites in almost every state.

Michael Buble, Luisana Lopilato welcome baby boy

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Buble is a father. The pop singer posted a picture of his wife, actress Luisana Lopilato, and their son Noah on his Instagram account Tuesday. Buble's representative confirmed the birth. Lopilato gave birth to the couple's first child early Tuesday in Vancouver, Canada. The 37-year-old Canadian singer and the 26-year-old Argentine actress were married in 2011. The couple met in 2009 during a South American concert tour. Buble is a Grammy-winning pop singer who has sold millions of albums, including "Crazy Love" and 2011's "Christmas." Lopilato made her name as a model and in Argentine sitcoms and soap operas.

CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending Aug. 26, 2013:

TOP SONGS
1. "Roar," Katy Perry
2. "Blurred Lines (feat. T.I. & Pharrell)," Robin Thicke
3. "Wake Me Up," Avicii
4. "Holy Grail (feat. Justin Timberlake)," JAY Z
5. "Applause," Lady Gaga
6. "Royals," Lorde
7. "We Can't Stop," Miley Cyrus
8. "That's My Kind of Night," Luke Bryan
9. "Radioactive," Imagine Dragons
10. "Safe and Sound," Capital Cities

TOP ALBUMS
1. "Paradise Valley," John Mayer
2. "Crash My Party," Luke Bryan
3. "Doris," Earl Sweatshirt
4. "Three Kings," TGT
5. "The Walking in Between," Ben Rector
6. "Trap Lord," A$AP Ferg
7. "Teen Beach Movie (Soundtrack)," Various Artists
8. "Magna Carta... Holy Grail," JAY Z
9. "Songs From St. Somewhere," Jimmy Buffett
10. "Unorthodox Jukebox," Bruno Mars

The top iPhone and iPad apps on App Store for the week ending Aug. 26, 2013:

TOP PAID IPHONE APPS
1. Asphalt 8: Airborne, Gameloft
2. Minecraft — Pocket Edition, Mojang
3. PicPlayPost, Flambe Studios LLC
4. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
5. Pixel Gun 3D — Block World Pocket Survival Shooter with Skins Maker for minecraft (PC edition) & Multiplayer, Alex Krasnov
6. Pimp Your Screen, Apalon
7. NFL Fantasy Football Cheat Sheet 2013, NFL Enterprises LLC
8. AfterLight, Simon Filip
9. Flipagram — Turn your Instagram photos into fun, captivating video slideshows, Flipagram LLC
10. Free Music Download Pro — Mp3 Downloader, ASPS Apps

TOP FREE IPHONE APPS
1. Plants vs. Zombies 2, PopCap
2. Candy Crush Saga, King.com Limited
3. Sky Gamblers: Storm Raiders, Atypical Games
4. Colormania — Guess the Colors, Genera Mobile
5. YouTube, Google, Inc.
6. ESPN Fantasy Football, ESPN
7. Vine, Vine Labs, Inc.
8. Despicable Me: Minion Rush, Gameloft
9. Instagram, Burbn, Inc.
10. Gold Diggers, Gamistry

TOP PAID IPAD APPS
1. Asphalt 8: Airborne, Gameloft
2. Notability, Ginger Labs
3. Minecraft — Pocket Edition, Mojang
4. NFL Fantasy Football Cheat Sheet 2013 for iPad, NFL Enterprises LLC
5. Pages, Apple
6. RotoWire Fantasy Football Draft Kit 2013, Roto Sports, Inc.
7. Pimp Your Screen, Apalon
8. Pixel Gun 3D — Block World Pocket Survival Shooter with Skins Maker for minecraft (PC edition) & Multiplayer, Alex Krasnov
9. Plants vs. Zombies HD, PopCap
10. Survivalcraft, Igor Kalicinski

TOP FREE IPAD APPS
1. Plants vs. Zombies 2, PopCap
2. Disney Infinity: Action!, Disney
3. Sky Gamblers: Storm Raiders, Atypical Games
4. Animal Voyage: Island Adventure, Pocket Gems, Inc.
5. Candy Crush Saga, King.com Limited
6. Baby Care & Baby Hospital - Kids games, George CL
7. YouTube, Google, Inc.
8. Blocksworld HD, Linden Research, Inc.
9. Despicable Me: Minion Rush, Gameloft
10. Skype for iPad, Skype Communications S.a.r.l

Calls to old girlfriend put wife on full alert

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: While I was out of town, my husband, "Miles," ran into his high school girlfriend at a party hosted by good friends of ours. She has been through a bad divorce, and Miles insists his desire to keep in touch with her is merely concern for a dear friend. Until I put a stop to it, he was calling her every night, talking with her for at least an hour at a time. He said there was nothing more to it.

I have now insisted that he call her only once a week and in my presence. He's complying, but it distresses me to hear him enjoy the conversation so much. Miles truly cares about her and she makes him laugh. He says he loves only me and will never leave me. He's a good man and I believe him, but ...

How should I handle this? I don't want to forbid him to talk to her, but I am feeling very insecure. Am I foolish to let their contact continue? We have been married 30 years.

THREATENED IN KENTUCKY

DEAR THREATENED: Tell your husband you know he loves you, has good morals and would never leave you, but that you feel intimidated by his renewed relationship with his high school sweetheart. Tell him you know he is kindhearted, but for YOUR mental health to please consider winding down these conversations. And it would be a kindness for him to recommend a counselor to his friend to help her resolve her issues.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 27 and the mother of a 6-year-old boy. I kiss him on the mouth and never thought twice about it until today, when my husband told me it's "creepy" that I do it at my son's age.

In my family we have always kissed on the mouth, and I still kiss my mother this way. Is it "weird" or inappropriate? I didn't think so, but now I'm concerned.

"SMOOCHY" IN TACOMA, WASH.

DEAR "SMOOCHY": Did you also kiss your father on the mouth? Different families have different customs, and if your husband spent much time around your family he should have noticed that. I don't see anything weird or inappropriate about the way you kiss your child. If your son reaches an age where it makes him uncomfortable, I'm sure he'll let you know.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I work in customer service and have noticed that more than half the people who write in abruptly end their emails with "Please advise."

To me, it seems rude and demanding. I feel that if a question has already been asked, there is no need to follow up with this phrase. What is the proper etiquette for using this phrase?

OFFENDED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR OFFENDED: There is no rule of etiquette pertaining to the use of the phrase "please advise." Many individuals who write to me for advice end their letters that way. It's not offensive; it simply means the person is asking for a reply.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

OH, MOM? I JUST REMEMBERED. SOME LADY CALLED YOU ABOUT AN HOUR AGO.
DID YOU GET HER NAME AND NUMBER?
NO...
WELL HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO CALL HER BACK?!
YOU DON'T NEED TO. SHE'S STILL ON THE LINE.
8-29

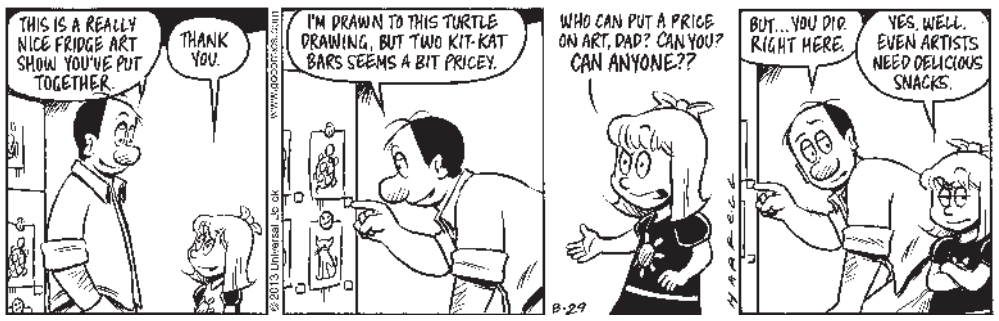
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

I JOINED A BOOK CLUB, GARFIELD! SOON MY BRAIN WILL EXPAND!
BUT THEN I WON'T BE ABLE TO WEAR HATS!
AND THEN I CAN'T BE A COWBOY!!!
STEP AWAY FROM THE BOOK, TEX
JIM DAVIS 8-29

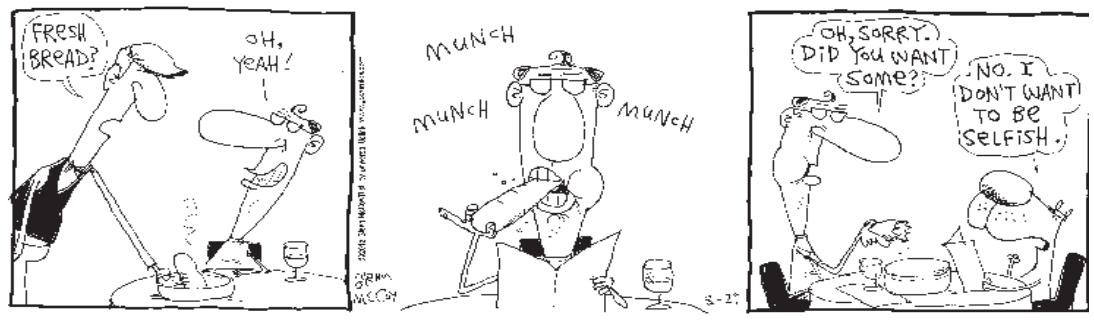
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THIS IS A REALLY NICE FRIDGE ART SHOW YOU'VE PUT TOGETHER.
THANK YOU.
I'M DRAWN TO THIS TURTLE DRAWING, BUT TWO KIT-KAT BARS SEEMS A BIT PRICEY.
WHO CAN PUT A PRICE ON ART, DAD? CAN YOU? CAN ANYONE??
BUT... YOU DID RIGHT HERE.
YES, WELL. EVEN ARTISTS NEED DELICIOUS SNACKS.
8-29

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

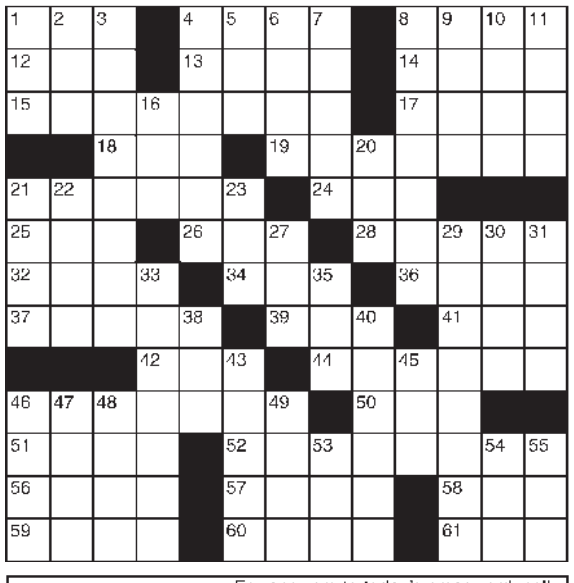
ACROSS
1 That guy
4 Unrivaled
8 Shacks
12 Geological period
13 Black, in verse
14 Turkish bigwig
15 Prestidigitator
17 Family
18 Snitch
19 Menacingly large
21 Doorbells
24 Author Fleming
25 No longer chic
26 Tatter
28 Office notes
32 Scraps
34 Diamond or heart
36 Slangy "etc."
37 Filch
39 Petrol
41 Martini ingredient
42 — deferens
44 Rocks
46 Urban transport
50 Carnival city
51 Continental coin
52 Famed circumnavigator
56 Celeb
57 Prejudice
58 Altar affirmative
59 Santa's deliveries
60 Swiss range
61 Donkey

DOWN
1 — and haw
2 Retirement plan acronym
3 "The Treachery of Images" artist
4 "Silence of the Lambs" villain
5 Kimono closer
6 Ham's father
7 Boredom
8 Hired carriage
9 Wrinkly fruit
10 Larger — life
11 Crooned
16 Cartesian conclusion
20 Felonious flight
21 Pigeon sounds
22 Injure
23 Potential syrup
27 Showbiz job
29 Mississippi emblem
30 Garfield's pal
31 Without
33 Rescuers
35 — de deux
38 Varnish ingredient
40 Emphasize
43 Ballroom dance
45 Lubricate
46 Exam
47 Car
48 Picture of health?
49 $50, in Monopoly
53 Space
54 Billboards
55 Discouraging words

Solution time: 25 mins.

D	A	B	■	R	A	S	P	■	A	C	E	R
I	R	E	■	E	C	H	O	■	S	H	O	O
S	I	R	■	S	H	O	R	T	H	A	N	D
C	A	N	O	E	■	■	T	I	C	■	■	■
■	■	■	D	E	B	S	■	P	A	L	E	D
H	A	N	D	D	O	W	N	■	N	A	V	E
E	G	O	■	S	N	O	O	K	■	V	I	A
A	R	E	A	■	D	O	W	N	F	A	L	L
R	A	L	P	H	■	P	A	I	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	P	R	O	■	■	I	Y	P	E	A
F	A	L	L	S	I	O	R	T	■	I	V	Y
A	L	O	E	■	M	O	U	E	■	L	E	E
D	E	B	T	■	S	H	E	D	■	E	N	S

Yesterday's answer 8-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauren Collins, 27; Lea Michele, 27; Carla Gugino, 42; Rebecca DeMornay, 54.

Happy Birthday: Don't let down your guard. Protect your position, reputation and your important relationships. Interference is apparent and could end up costing you emotionally, financially or even physically if you do not take precautions. Keep your personal life a secret. Put greater emphasis on helping others and taking your responsibilities seriously. Spend cautiously and you will ease your stress. Your numbers are 3, 11, 14, 25, 33, 38, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Make personal changes that will boost your confidence and your ego. A relationship can cost you emotionally if you let a situation spin out of control. Use diplomacy, compassion and understanding when dealing with loved ones. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Use caution if working with equipment or tools. An argument will leave you feeling cheated. Concentrate on learning and expanding your skills. Your success will be the best revenge in a no-win situation. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Spend time with friends and share your ideas and intentions with those who have something to contribute or offer in return. Avoid complainers or critical and negative people. Purchase something that makes you feel good. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take a serious approach to something you want to master. Discipline and hard work will pay off and impress someone who has something unique to offer you. Discuss your future plans and make a motion to move in that direction. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Rely on those who owe you favors and refrain from letting anyone stand in your way. Make some time for a needed getaway. Traveling to a destination that offers fun, romance and relaxation should be planed for late in the day. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): An emotional situation will leave you confused and wondering what to do next. Don't add pressure; simply wait and watch to see how things unfold. Once you get a true picture of what you are up against, you can take action. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Enjoy the sights, scenery and your surroundings. Avoid negativity and getting pulled into dilemmas that are based on vanity or naivety. Focus on being your best, doing your best and enjoying any personal success you achieve. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): An opportunity that offers a practical solution to a problem you face should be considered. Back away from people who don't share your thoughts, ideas or beliefs, and opt to work alongside those who complement what you have to offer. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): A financial partnership may intrigue you, but before going down that path, consider whether or not you need someone and if the person you choose can contribute as much as you have. Unexpected doors will open if you continue to move forward alone. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Size up your situation and make your choices based on practical matters, not emotional feelings. If you let your heart rule your head, you are likely to face setbacks that will be costly and difficult to reverse. Don't mix business with pleasure. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take care of health issues or any physical changes you want implement in order to make yourself more appealing. The people you choose to spend time with must be a positive influence if you plan to improve your personal or professional life. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Go over your financial situation. You can spend money, but only if it will bring you a return at some point. Investing in your skills, education or future prospects will pay off. An emotional problem with a friend or lover will be costly. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are willful, intuitive and precise. You are helpful and demanding.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8			1		2	6		
		6			9	8	7	
					7			3
3		5				2		8
9			4					
	2	7	6			9		
		4	5		3			1

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	2	6	4	5	7	8	3	9
4	8	9	3	2	1	5	7	6
7	5	3	8	9	6	2	1	4
5	3	7	9	6	8	4	2	1
9	1	2	5	4	3	7	6	8
8	6	4	1	7	2	9	5	3
2	7	8	6	1	4	3	9	5
6	4	5	7	3	9	1	8	2
3	9	1	2	8	5	6	4	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

IN A FORTUNE COOKIE Solution: 7 letters

F	R	F	E	E	Z	I	S	E	N	H	S	E	R	F
A	E	U	V	W	L	W	T	O	C	U	S	T	O	M
T	E	T	A	L	E	R	I	N	S	I	M	P	L	E
E	R	U	S	E	E	S	U	S	S	O	V	S	R	L
S	A	R	T	S	A	R	S	C	D	N	U	D	O	E
I	C	E	S	C	C	R	C	N	O	O	A	B	A	G
R	R	E	C	E	E	H	A	I	I	L	M	C	R	E
P	D	O	L	B	I	R	T	R	N	Y	O	A	K	N
R	E	Y	M	N	A	A	A	P	S	A	G	R	F	D
U	T	U	E	U	R	V	P	K	C	U	L	L	R	R
S	Ⓝ	S	Q	I	H	O	R	O	S	C	O	P	E	Y
A	E	Ⓞ	P	I	L	H	O	M	E	U	L	P	A	E
E	V	S	Ⓣ	T	N	I	M	A	R	O	A	E	C	N
D	N	D	N	Ⓔ	B	U	F	K	V	P	O	E	T	O
I	I	C	O	N	I	C	D	E	G	A	S	S	E	M

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Advice, Bend, Career, Chinese, Color, Crunch, Curl, Custom, Dessert, Fate, Flour, Fresh, Future, Home, Horoscope, Humor, Iconic, Ideas, Inspiration, Invented, Legend, Life, Love, Luck, Make, Message, Mint, Money, Note, Numbers, Occasion, Paper, Plan, Poet, Random, React, Relate, Save, Simple, Size, Snack, Style, Sugar, Surprise, Sweet, Symbol, Unique, Various, Wisdom

Yesterday's Answer: Between

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, volumes 30 and 31** call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universalclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED

Retired American. Looking for girlfriend. Please call 788-2099 or 285-7764.

EMPLOYMENT

SALES EXECUTIVE Experience in rent-car sales & internet sales preferred. Korean and Chinese language knowledge preferred. Resume to SangJee Rent Car, Email: stimes@korea.com PMB 573, Box 10000, Saipan MP 96950

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1 Store Manager: $1,000/mo. At least 1 year of experience as a clothing store manager is required. Korean speaking and writing fluency is required. Email resume to treasure@hanmisaipan.com.

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Saipan Tribune

Jesus H. & Maria Elena Sablan
P.O. BOX 502233
Saipan MP, 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 285-3370 / 285-4890

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter of Adoption for: Marlenie Mitsuko Castro Sablan Minor Child, **By:** **Jesus Hosono Sablan and Maria Elena Castro Sablan** Petitioners	**FCD AD CASE NO. 13-0371** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 07, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2013.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) Finishing Carpenter/Mason
with 10 years experience. Salary negotiable.
Please submit resume to Bespren Development dba Five Star Builders Corporation
Tel. # 789-7938/233-6927

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US Pacific Holdings Corp.
P.O. Box 505049 Saipan MP, 96950
(1) Oriental Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine Advisor for Tropical Healing Garden
Minimum Requirements: Passage of US Acupuncture Exam: Former Education Degree in field.
Salary: $29.45/hr
If interested, email tropicalgarden.us@gmail.com

www.saipantribune.com

Agape Christian School
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 English Instructor
U.S. Citizen, Green card or EAD holder preferred.
If interested, please email your resume to pangfamilysaipan@gmail.com or call 989-8488 after 3pm.

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Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
$250/month

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Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill)
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
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LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
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FEATURES:
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- **Back-up Generator**
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- **Nighttime Security**
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- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by September 14, 2013. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

Job Vacancy Announcement

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(3) REGISTERED NURSE

- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)-Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 09/06/13 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Opening Date: August 15, 2013 **Closing Date:** August 30, 2013

POSITION: Housing Inspector/Housing Preservation Technician I

STARTING PL 26/01 to PL 26/04 ($18,584.42 to $21,506.00 per annum)
The starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.

Location of Job Vacancy: Program & Housing Division
NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, August 30, 2013, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than August 30, 2013, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

WHATZIT Solution: Weather beaten

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

News 3 Weather 2

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Find today's solution in classified section

Victorino's 2 HRs power Boston past Orioles, 13-2

BOSTON (AP) _ Shane Victorino homered twice and drove in a career-high seven runs to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 13-2 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday night.

Felix Doubront pitched 6 2-3 innings of four-hit ball for AL East-leading Boston.

Victorino also had a two-run double in the seventh, and Dustin Pedroia had three hits for the Red Sox.

J.J. Hardy and Danny Valencia each had two of Baltimore's four hits. Wei-Yin Chen (7-7) lasted just 3 2-3 innings, allowing eight runs and eight hits. He struck out five, walked three and hit a batter.

Doubront (10-6) had only one bad inning, allowing the first four batters in Baltimore's two-run third to reach. But he retired 14 of the next 16 before leaving to a standing ovation from the Fenway Park crowd of 36,226.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Mike Napoli, right, has his beard tugged by teammate David Ross at the dugout in celebration of Napoli's solo home run against the Baltimore Orioles in the fourth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013.

Angels 6, Rays 5

In St. Petersburg, Flordia, Erick Aybar drove in four runs to help the Los Angeles Angels rallied from a four-run deficit to get the win.

Aybar hit a two-run double off closer Fernando Rodney (5-4) to put the Angels up 6-5 in the ninth.

Peter Bourjos stole second and went to third when center fielder Desmond Jennings misplayed J.B. Shuck's fly ball for a two-base error. Aybar then followed with the key hit.

Aybar also had a two-run single during a three-run seventh that made it 5-4.

Jose Molina had three hits and three RBIs for Tampa Bay, which has lost three in a row. The Rays, leading the AL wild-card race, are 2Ω games behind AL East-leading Boston.

After Ernesto Frieri (2-4) pitched a scoreless eighth, Dane De La Rosa got the final three outs for his second save.

Yankees 7, Blue Jays 1

In Toronto, Alfonso Soriano hit two home runs and Andy Pettitte pitched seven shutout innings as the Yankees beat the Blue Jays after losing Robinson Cano in the first inning.

Alex Rodriguez and Mark Reynolds also homered for the Yankees, who won for the 13th time in 15 meetings with Toronto this season.

Rodriguez hit a two-out solo shot in the seventh for his 651st career home run and second in two games. Soriano's homers, both of which were hit on the first pitch, were the 399th and 400th of his career.

Cano sustained a bruised left hand after being struck by a pitch from left-hander J.A. Happ (3-4). X-rays were negative, and the Yankees said Cano is day to day.

Eduardo Nunez, who replaced Cano, appeared to injure his right leg while covering second base in the eighth. He was checked by trainer Steve Donohue and initially stayed in the game, but was replaced three batters after hitting a leadoff single in the ninth.

Pettitte (10-9) improved to 7-1 in his past eight starts against Toronto.

Athletics 6, Tigers 3, 5 innings

In Detroit, Brandon Moss hit a tiebreaking two-run homer off Justin Verlander as the Athletics beat the Tigers in a game cut short by rain.

Seth Smith hit a leadoff homer in the sixth, and Oakland had the bases loaded with no one out when the tarp was pulled on the field due to the weather. It was called after an 80-minute delay.

Oakland starter Tommy Milone (10-9) allowed three runs in the first, and then pitched four scoreless innings for the complete game. The left-hander improved to 2-2 with a 4.97 ERA in his last six starts.

Detroit dropped its second straight game, but the biggest concern was another sluggish outing for Verlander (12-10), who was charged with four runs, three earned, and four hits in five innings.

The right-hander, who won the Cy Young Award and AL MVP in 2011, is 0-2 with a 5.00 ERA in his last four starts.

Rangers 4, Mariners 3, 10 innings

In Seattle, Ian Kinsler scored the go-ahead run on Danny Farquar's balk in the 10th inning, handing Texas the victory.

Kinsler started the winning rally with one-out single against Farquar (0-2) for his fourth hit. Kinsler advanced on Adrian Beltre's single, and then swiped third. After A.J. Pierzynski fouled out, home plate umpire C.B. Bucknor called a balk on Farquar with Alex Rios at the plate, allowing Kinsler to come home.

Tanner Scheppers (6-2) wiggled out of a jam in the ninth to get the win and Joe Nathan finished for his 38th save in 40 chances as the AL West-leading Rangers won for the sixth time in eight games.

A day after coming off the disabled list, Franklin Gutierrez homered for the first time since June 22 for Seattle, which has lost five straight.

Royals 6, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, James Shields was sharp for 7 1-3 innings and Kansas City scored five runs in the eighth inning to break open a scoreless game.

Shields—the key part in the deal that sent top prospect Wil Myers to Tampa Bay in the off-season—struck out seven and notched his American-League best 22nd quality start.

Shields (9-8) only allowed one hit through seven innings before running into trouble and leaving in the eighth inning.

Kevin Correia struck out a season-high seven over seven shutout innings, but ended up with a no-decision. Brian Dozier had the Twins' RBI.

Seven consecutive Royals hitters reached base in the five-run eighth and handed Jared Burton (2-8) his third loss to Kansas City this season.

White Sox 4, Astros 3

In Chicago, Jordan Danks hit a clutch two-run single in Chicago's three-run eighth inning, leading the White Sox to the victory.

Danks finished with a career-high three hits as the White Sox won for the ninth time in 11 games, bouncing back from a difficult loss in the series opener. Paul Konerko, Alexei Ramirez and Avisail Garcia had two hits apiece.

Matt Dominguez had three hits and two RBIs for the Astros, who had won three of four. Dominguez and Chris Carter hit consecutive two-out homers off closer Addison Reed to give Houston a 10-8 victory on Monday night.

Reed worked the ninth for his 36th save in 41 tries. Robbie Grossman had a two-out double for his third hit, but Reed got L.J. Hoes to bounce out to shortstop to end the game.

Donnie Veal (2-3) got one out for the win.

Danks' two-run single came against Erik Bedard (3-10).

Cubs 3, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Travis Wood outpitched Clayton Kershaw in a matchup of All-Star lefties, and Dioner Navarro and Starlin Castro had run-scoring singles to help the Chicago Cubs beat the Dodgers, ending an eight-game skid against first-place Los Angeles.

After losing 6-2 against Zack Greinke in the series opener, the Cubs caught Kershaw on a decidedly off-night for the ace who came in with a major league-leading 1.72 ERA. Kershaw's streak of 18 scoreless innings, dating to Aug. 17, ended in the third when the Cubs took a 1-0 lead.

Wood (8-10) allowed one unearned run and five hits in seven innings. He struck out six and walked two for his first victory since July 28 at San Francisco.

Kevin Gregg pitched the ninth to earn his 27th save in 32 chances.

Mets 5, Phillies 0

In New York, Jonathon Niese pitched a three-hitter and had a three-run double, helping the Mets end a five-game losing streak.

Niese struck out five and walked one in his second career shutout in 112 major league starts. The Mets won several hours after trading veterans Marlon Byrd and John Buck to Pittsburgh.

Niese (6-6) handled matters at the plate and on the mound. He retired 17 straight batters and scored the first run by running through third base coach Tim Teufel's late stop sign.

Niese improved to 3-0 in four starts since coming off the disabled list because of a partially torn rotator cuff.

The Phillies had won five of their previous six under interim manager Ryne Sandberg. Kyle Kendrick (10-11) went six innings and allowed five runs, only one earned.

Cardinals 6, Reds 1

In St. Louis, Joe Kelly tossed six strong innings and Matt Holliday drove in a run for a seventh straight game to help lift St. Louis over Cincinnati.

St. Louis has won six of seven, including the first two games of this three-game set. The first-place Cardinals have won eight of their last 10 against the third-place Reds and lead them by 4Ω games in the NL Central.

The Cards also moved 1 1/2 games ahead of second-place Pittsburgh.

Shin-Soo Choo homered for Cincinnati, which lost for the fourth time in five games. The Cardinals retired the last 13 Cincinnati batters, dropping the Reds to 4-10 against St. Louis this season.

Kelly (6-3), who allowed one run and eight hits, improved to 6-0 in nine starts since rejoining the starting rotation on July 6.

Brewers 7, Pirates 6

In Pittsburgh, Aramis Ramirez had three hits, including his 350th career home run, and drove in four runs as Milwaukee edged Pittsburgh.

The 16-year veteran third baseman helped stake the Brewers to a 5-0 in the fifth inning, but the Pirates rallied to tie it in the sixth. Milwaukee pulled out the win when rookie pinch-hitter Caleb Gindl hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning.

With the game tied 6-6, Rafael Betancourt hit a one-out double off Bryan Morris (5-7) and took third on Scooter Gennett's single. Gindl then lifted a fly to right that scored Betancourt and gave the Brewers their third victory in four games.

Pittsburgh, which trails St. Louis in the NL Central race, lost its third in a row.

Diamondbacks 10, Padres 9, 10 innings

In Phoenix, Aaron Hill lined a game-ending RBI single in the 10th inning to give Arizona the victory.

With Hill at-bat and runners on second and third, the Padres employed a five-man infield. Hill lined a shot over the head of left fielder Yonder Alonzo for his eighth career game-ending hit.

Adam Eaton opened the 10th with a single to center, and Paul Goldschmidt singled to left before Hill won it against Dale Thayer (2-4).

The Diamondbacks played their 20th extra-inning game this season, second only to the 21 they had in 1999. Arizona is 15-5 in this season's long contests.

San Diego dropped to 7-6 in extra innings.

Nationals 2, Marlins 1

In Washington, Ross Ohlendorf pitched into the sixth inning, Ian Desmond had three hits, and Washington beat Miami.

Ohlendorf (3-0) pitched five innings of two-hit ball before Christian Yelich led off the sixth with his second homer, ending the starter's outing. It was Ohlendorf's second start since he was sidelined by right shoulder inflammation.

Tanner Roark, Drew Storen and Tyler Clippard each pitched a hitless inning before Rafael Soriano finished the four-hitter for his 34th save.

Washington kicked off a six-game homestand with its sixth victory in seven games.

Giants 5, Rockies 3

In Denver, Hunter Pence and Pablo Sandoval hit back-to-back homers, and Yusmeiro Petit won his first game in four years, helping San Francisco beat Colorado.

Pence and Sandoval went deep in the opening inning, marking the first time all season the Giants have hit back-to-back homers.

Brandon Belt had four singles and scored twice for San Francisco, which won for the third time in four games.

Petit (1-0) was recently called up from Triple-A Fresno to fill in for Matt Cain, who was placed on the 15-day disabled list last week. Petit lasted six innings, allowed six hits and two runs.

Braves 2, Indians 0

In Atlanta, rookie Alex Wood pitched five-plus strong innings and Elliot Johnson had a two-run triple as Atlanta held off Cleveland.

The Braves have won two straight, improving the majors' best record to 79-52. They have won 14 of 17 at Turner Field and own baseball's home mark at 45-18.

Craig Kimbrel pitched a perfect ninth to earn his 42nd save, most in the majors, in 45 chances.

Atlanta took a 2-0 lead in the second inning. Brian McCann walked with one out and advanced to third on Joey Terdoslavich's single to right field. Both runners scored when Johnson tripled over Stubbs near the wall in right.

Wood (3-2) allowed five hits, a career-high four walks and struck out five in 5 2-3 innings. The left-hander is 3-0 with a 1.46 ERA in his past six starts.

During rough year, Federer starts well at US Open

NEW YORK (AP)—At this point in his career, Roger Federer recognizes the importance of a little extra work.

That's why the owner of a record 17 Grand Slam titles, and the man who spent more weeks ranked No. 1 than any other, was out there on a U.S. Open practice court late Tuesday afternoon, putting in some training time shortly after finishing off a 6-3, 6-2, 7-5 victory over 62nd-ranked Grega Zemlja of Slovenia in the first round.

At 32 and holding his lowest ranking, No. 7, in more than a decade, and coming off a stunningly early exit at the previous major tournament—one of a series of newsworthy losses lately—Federer is OK with making some concessions. He insists his passion for tennis is still there.

"I'm in a good spot right now," Federer said. "I want to enjoy it as long as it lasts."

He made it sound, though, as if it isn't as easy to enjoy things the way his results have been going.

Federer entered Tuesday 32-11, a .744 winning percentage that doesn't sound too bad, until you consider his career mark at the start of this season was .816, and he's had years where he went 81-4 (.953). and 92-5 (.948). He's only won one tournament in 2013, which would be great for some guys, but Federer topped 10 titles three times, and hasn't won fewer than three in any season since 2001.

"Clearly, when you win everything, it's fun. That doesn't necessarily mean you love the game more. You just like winning, being on the front page, lifting trophies, doing comfortable press conferences. It's nice. But that doesn't mean you really, actually love it, love it," said Federer, whose streak of 36 consecutive Grand Slam quarterfinals ended with a second-round defeat at Wimbledon against an opponent ranked 116th. "That maybe shines through maybe more in times when you don't play that well. For me, I knew it - winning or losing, practice court or match court - that I love it."

AP

Roger Federer, of Switzerland, serves to Grega Zemlja, of Slovenia, during the first round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2013, in New York.

As fan favorite Federer took the first step toward a possible quarterfinal meeting with nemesis Rafael Nadal, an unknown teen from the United States made a Grand Slam breakthrough Tuesday. Victoria Duval, a 17-year-old qualifier who is ranked 296th, pulled off quite an upset, eliminating 2011 U.S. Open winner Sam Stosur 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

"A big moment, big stage. Not easy closing any match out, let alone a past U.S. Open champion," Duval said. "So happy I did it, though."

Duval jumped up and down with arms aloft after pounding a forehand winner to convert her fourth match point. And why not? She had never beaten a player ranked higher than 69th, never even faced one in the top 20, and never won a Grand Slam match.

"I know she didn't play her best today, and this is the best I've played in my career, so I'm really excited," Duval told the Louis Armstrong Stadium crowd. "I just tried to stay in the moment."

Stosur was unhappy with the way she played, including 10 double-faults and a total of 56 unforced errors, 21 more than Duval.

"I'm not going to be a sore loser and say she didn't do anything," the 11th-seeded Stosur said. "But, you know, I think I certainly helped her out there today, that's for sure."

Other seeded women on the way out were No. 17 Dominika Cibulkova, No. 20 Nadia Petrova and No. 31 Klara Zakopalova.

No. 2 Victoria Azarenka, the 2012 U.S. Open runner-up and a two-time Australian Open winner, needed 10 minutes and six break points to take the first game against 99th-ranked Dinah Pfizenmaier, then dominated the rest of the way en route to a 6-0, 6-0 victory.

"There are things, you know, I feel like should be better," Azarenka said. "But overall, it's a good start."

Now there's an understatement. Her 65-minute match in Arthur Ashe Stadium came after top-seeded Novak Djokovic began his bid for a second U.S. Open title, and seventh major trophy overall, with nearly as swift and simple a result, beating 112th-ranked Ricardas Berankis of Lithuania 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

"I played every point like it's a match point," said Djokovic, who recently added former top-10 player Wojtek Fibak as a coaching consultant.

Other straight-set winners included No. 5 Tomas Berdych and No. 10 Milos Raonic. On a day that American men went 5-2, led by No. 13 John Isner and No. 26 Sam Querrey, a handful of seeded players made quick departures. No. 14 Jerzy Janowicz of Poland, a semifinalist at Wimbledon last month, was the most surprising to go, although he was treated by a trainer for a painful back during a 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 loss to 247th-ranked qualifier Maximo Gonzalez of Argentina.

"It was like someone puts a knife through your lower back," Janowicz said.

Janowicz is a volatile character, and that was on full display Tuesday. He pounded two balls in anger into the stands. He swatted one serve underhand. He chucked his racket. He argued with the chair umpire.

Other losers included No. 15 Nicolas Almagro, No. 25 Grigor Dimitrov and No. 28 Juan Monaco.

Federer says he doesn't fret about being seeded seventh at Flushing Meadows, a year after being seeded No. 1. Not since 2002, when he was 13th, had Federer been so low at the U.S. Open.

That didn't really affect Tuesday's opponent in Arthur Ashe Stadium. All that mattered to Zemlja, who owns fewer Grand Slam match wins, eight, than Federer owns Grand Slam titles, was that he was facing what he considered an impossible task.

"If he's the seventh seed or fourth seed or first seed, for me, that's totally irrelevant," Zemlja said. "He achieved so much. He's the best player of all time. So I don't think people can actually say something (negative) about the way he's playing. You're losing matches, you're winning matches - that's just tennis, and I'm sure he's going to perform better than maybe he has done in the last few tournaments."

Difficult as things have been for Federer, he certainly remains capable of summoning his best strokes. A bad lower back has bothered him this season, and he's experimented with a larger racket head, but with his old equipment in hand Tuesday, a healthy-looking Federer collected 35 winners and only 16 unforced errors.

Wearing neon-pink-and-gray shoes with a "5" etched inside a silhouette of the U.S. Open trophy on the right heel—the number of titles he's won in New York from 2004-08—Federer won 20 of the 21 points he played at the net and 62 of the 80 points he served. To cap the first set, Federer spun a 95 mph ace into a corner. To cap the second, he hit a 118 mph service winner that forced Zemlja into a backhand return so wild that it sailed directly into a guest box in the stands, where Federer's agent happened to catch the ball on the fly. And to cap the third, Federer pressed forward for a swinging forehand volley winner.

"I decided ... to play aggressive," Federer summed up. "I was happy the way I played, you know, overall. I mean, it's a first round, after all."

NFLPA files grievance on behalf of Hernandez

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—The NFL Players Association has filed a grievance to help former New England Patriots star tight end Aaron Hernandez collect an $82,000 workout bonus.

Hernandez's contract provided for him to receive that amount if he participated in 90 percent of the team's voluntary offseason workouts.

"On behalf of all players, it is our responsibility to protect the rights in the collective bargaining agreement," the union said in a statement. "We are not tone-deaf to what the allegations are in this case, but for the benefit of all players, there are important precedents here we must protect."

The Patriots cut Hernandez after he was arrested on June 26 and before he was charged with murder later that day. He pleaded not guilty and is being held without bail in the shooting death of Odin Lloyd, a friend whose body was found June 17 near Hernandez's house. The union believes Hernandez earned the bonus before his arrest.

Patriots owner Robert Kraft indicated he disagreed.

"It's simple," he said Tuesday. "You can look at our history. We honor all our contracts and we expect the people who sign them to honor their part of the contract."

Asked if he felt Hernandez didn't do that, Kraft said, "We honor our contracts and we expect the people on the other side to do the same."

Last year, Hernandez signed a five-year, $40 million contract extension through the 2018 season. The contract, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, includes an $82,000 bonus if Hernandez "successfully completes" at least 90 percent the possible offseason workouts at the team's facility. The bonus would have been paid "on or about" Aug. 1.

The NFL's collective bargaining agreement allows teams to recoup bonus money when a player is incarcerated. The Patriots cut Hernandez before the bonus, if earned, was due.

Hernandez was indicted last Thursday on first-degree murder and weapons charges in the death of Lloyd, whose bullet-riddled body was found in an industrial park about a mile from the ex-player's North Attleborough, Mass., home.

Prosecutors say Hernandez orchestrated Lloyd's killing because he was upset at him for talking to people Hernandez had problems with at a night-club days earlier.

Kraft said that since he bought the Patriots before the 1994 season, "we've had probably over 2,000 people playing here and I think, by and large, we've done a pretty good job. If you look at the last four years I don't think we had any off-field incidents. So we're as diligent as we can be.

"We know what we want to achieve, yet, when people go outside this building, it's like those of you who have children," Kraft told reporters. "Once they get to a certain age, you can't control all their activities."

He also said that "every year in all of our businesses, we recalibrate what we are doing to make sure we're staying fresh and on top of things, and once you stop doing that, you'll perish."

The NFL, Kraft said, is "the most competitive business I've ever been involved in and so we have reviewed everything. We've been very diligent (in) the way we look at things and we'll try to do things as best as we can to achieve the results we want."

The Patriots are "a microcosm of the world," he said. "All kinds of things are going to happen. We do our best to hope that (players) understand they're in a unique place. Playing in the NFL is a privilege and we hope they're wise and mature enough to make sure they know how to take advantage of that."

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Laguna/Twinkle/Erika's Sonny Ebuen drives against two Fong's Bakery defenders during last year's game in the UFO caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

2 more sponsors onboard UFO caging

Following the lead of MARPAC, two more businesses have agreed to sponsor the 2013 United Filipino Organization Basketball League.

According to league coordinator Abner Venus, Tan Holdings (through Tan Siu Lin Foundation) and JET Holdings Co. have agreed to come in as sponsors of the competition.

While MARPAC will be sponsoring the 40-and-over masters division, the TSL Foundation and JET Holdings will be co-sponsors for the open division.

A total of 16 teams have already signified their intention to join the league. Four teams are joining the 40-and-over age group, namely Armatech, Wings Travel, MAFEA, and Tan Holdings.

The open division, meanwhile, has Mobil, Hoopaholics, KB Market, Proa, Star Sands Plaza, and a team that will be coached by veteran tactician Boy Garcia.

The under-21 division so far has the Division of Youth Services Sonics, Rollers, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Proa, while the under-16 age group has the Division of Youth Services, Rollers, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Mobil.

The 2013 United Filipino Organization Basketball League kicks off on Sept. 22 at the TSL Sports Complex's Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Before the actual games start, the opening ceremony will promptly begin at 1pm on that day. Playing dates for the league will be Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, if necessary. First game is at 6:30pm and second game is at 8pm.

The next organizational meeting is set for Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7pm at Don Pedro's Restaurant beside Gene's Barber Shop along Middle Road in Garapan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Vikings fullback Felton suspended for 3 games

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Adrian Peterson's lead blocker will be missing from the Minnesota Vikings for their first three regular season games.

Pro Bowl fullback Jerome Felton has received a three-game suspension for violating the NFL's policy on substance abuse, the league announced Monday. No details were disclosed, per the NFL's confidentiality agreement with the players' union.

Felton was drafted by Detroit in the fifth round in 2008 out of Furman but bounced between three teams over his first four years in the league until his breakthrough last season with the Vikings, when Peterson rushed for 2,097 yards and won the Most Valuable Player award.

Felton then signed a three-year contract with the club in March worth as much as $7.5 million, including $2 million guaranteed.

With an $850,000 base salary for 2013, Felton will lose $150,000 because of the ban.

Felton had an emergency appendectomy two weeks ago and has been recovering since, so even though his suspension doesn't take effect until Saturday, he's not expected to play in the team's final preseason game Thursday against Tennessee.

He must miss the games at Detroit on Sept. 8, at Chicago on Sept. 15 and against Cleveland on Sept. 22, and he'll be eligible to return to the active roster the day after that with his first allowable action on Sept. 29 against Pittsburgh in London.

Shortly after Felton first signed with Minnesota last year, he was arrested outside a fast food restaurant near the team's practice facility and cited for two misdemeanor counts of driving while impaired.

The Vikings were off Monday, after playing at San Francisco the night before. In a statement, general manager Rick Spielman said, "We respect the league's decision and Jerome understands it. Jerome is focused on returning to the playing field in week four."

Without him, the Vikings will turn to fullback Matt Asiata and tight end Rhett Ellison to fill his role. Undrafted free agent Zach Line, who was a standout at Southern Methodist and has two touchdowns and 74 yards on three receptions in the preseason, has a chance to make the team, too.

The Vikings also pared their roster down to the 75-player limit one day ahead of the deadline by waiving the following: wide receivers LaMark Brown, Erik Highsmith and Chris Summers; running backs Bradley Randle and Jerodis Williams; cornerbacks Greg McCoy and Roderick Williams; defensive ends Lawrence Jackson and Marquis Jackson; quarterback James Vandenberg; linebacker Stanford Keglar; guard Tyler Holmes; and center Camden Wentz. Felton doesn't count against the limit. Neither does defensive tackle Christian Ballard, who has been on the reserve/left squad list for unspecified reasons.

The only player on the cut list with significant experience was Lawrence Jackson, a former first-round draft pick by Seattle in 2008. He was with Detroit the past three years before signing with Minnesota this spring, but with Jared Allen, Brian Robison and Everson Griffen there's a crowd at his position.

CNMI

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2014 Challenge Cup Qualifiers in Kathmandu, Nepal in February, AFC U14 Championship 2014 Qualifiers, and AFC U14 Girls Regional Championships in Beijing, China, in April and June, respectively, is in Group I of the qualifier, joining 42 other countries in the race for slots to the zone championship.

The top finisher in Group I and nine other brackets and the best five runners-up will join host Thailand in next year's competition in Bangkok.

The CNMI has more than 20 players training for the qualifier in China and the final roster is expected to be announced a few days before the Teen Ayuyus leave Saipan on Sept. 23. Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Johann Noetzel is coaching the squad and facilitating the training sessions at the Oleai Sports Complex. Noetzel, who holds an AFC B license in coaching, is assisted by AFC C license coach Jershwin Angeles.

The pool of players has been practicing for several months and some even suited up for the CNMI Team that competed in the 2013 EAFF U18 Youth Tournament in Guam early this month. They also spent their school vacation attending the five to six times a week training sessions.

"[NMIFA] president Jerry Tan wanted to maximize the summer months and flood them with as many training sessions as possible while the kids were out of school. We have successfully completed that goal," said Noetzel, who thanked the team's support group.

"What I do on the field is second nature. The big help comes from the NMIFA administrative staff Roxe Lazaro, Gigi Zapanta, and vice president and acting general secretary Vickie Izuka. They have been and continue to be monumental in executing our teams' participation to competition, logistically and addressing daily FA matters. Another big help has been Pam Carhill of Marianas Health Services. Pam and MHS, thanks to the vision of George (Cruz), the managing director, have been keeping our players healthy and on the road to speedy injury recovery with precision and class. We are very fortunate to have such a great medical support staff," Noetzel said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

DYS

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after a scoreless first quarter and went on to notch three more field goals to slice KFC's lead to 1 at the break, 18-19. Ong continued to lead DYS' offense in the third period to grab the lead from KFC, 29-25, and completed his heroics last weekend with the buzzer-beating basket.

Ol'Aces 33, Rebelholics 32

The second game in the U15 division also had a down-to-the-wire finish with the Ol'Aces slipping past the Rebelholics in overtime.

The Ol'Aces canned four free throws in the extension period to edge the Rebelholics and improve to a 2-1 record. Rebelholics fell to a 1-2 card for a share of fourth to fifth place with the Rollers.

Erwin Olopai and K.J. Nabors connected on two charities apiece in overtime, while Rudy Lazaro made the two field goals for the Ol'Aces, who are bannered by Tinian players. Olopai also drilled the basket that sent the game into extra five minutes.

Nabors paced the Ol'Aces with his 12 points, while Olopai and Lazaro combined for 15. Kyle Rios led the Rebelholics with his 9 markers.

Rollers 37, DA Projects 22

The Rollers entered the win column after a 0-2 start, following a rout of the winless DA Projects (0-3).

The Rollers got off to a good start, taking a 12-2 lead and never looked back.

Aaron Ogumoro powered the Rollers to the easy win, nailing 11 points, while Emmanuel Cobacha and Henry Yu contributed 8 apiece. Three other Rollers players made it to the scoreboard, as they clearly dominated the young crew of DA Projects.

Duncan Laxa had 9 points for the DA Projects and he had only three other teammates helping him out on offense.

First Game

Rollers 37 – Ogumoro 11, Cobacha 8, Yu 8, Dela Cruz 6, Caracut 2, Mamaril 2.

DA Projects 22 – Du. Laxa 9, Itaas 6, Spencer 5, Litusquen 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-2, 22-7, 28-19, 37-22.

Second Game

Ol'Aces 33 – Nabors 12, Olopai 8, Lazaro 7, Epity 4, Magofna 2.

Rebelholics 32 – Rios 9, Deocares 7, Retan 4, Sagun 4, Abobo 3.

Scoring by quarters: 5-4, 16-13, 21-17, 25-25, 33-32.

Third Game

DYS 38 – Ong 18, Mendoza 5, Flores 5, De Leon 4, Ellama 3, Cenir 2.

KFC/Taco Bell 36 – Morales 7, Fidelino 6, Espinosa 6, Ogasawara 5, Francisco 3, Cruz 3, Borromeo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 0-8, 18-19, 29-25, 38-36.

JUNIOR

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semis berth after prevailing in the last two, 21-11, 21-16.

With the tough victory, Oh joined top-ranked Jordan Pangilinan, Ezekiel Macario, and Deether Edralin to the semifinals.

Pangilinan was unbeaten in the six-player Class B, completing a perfect record after slipping past Joel Ortega last Friday, 20-21, 21-13, 21-12. Macario was ranked second with a 3-2 slate despite dropping his last elimination game to eventual third finisher Edralin, 16-21, 21-16, 20-21.

In the Class A singles, the flawless Andreau Galvez (4-0) leads the Final Four cast and will be paired against Macoi Aguda (1-3), who notched the last semis berth in the group. Jexler Caranto (3-1) and Ferdie Arago (2-2) will collide in the other semis pairing this weekend after finishing second and third, respectively.

Galvez recorded a sweep in the elimination round after outclassing Aguda last Saturday, 21-11, 21-15, while Arago also defeated the latter in an earlier game that day, 21-9, 21-11.

Meanwhile, results in the women's singles, doubles, and 35-and-above contests will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Thursday edition.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	78	55	.586	_
Tampa Bay	74	56	.569	2 1/2
Baltimore	70	60	.538	6 1/2
New York	70	62	.530	7 1/2
Toronto	59	74	.444	19

Central Division

Detroit	77	55	.583	_
Cleveland	71	60	.542	5 1/2
Kansas City	67	64	.511	9 1/2
Minnesota	57	73	.438	19
Chicago	55	76	.420	21 1/2

West Division

Texas	77	55	.583	_
Oakland	74	57	.565	2 1/2
Los Angeles	59	71	.454	17
Seattle	59	72	.450	17 1/2
Houston	44	87	.336	32 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	78	52	.600	_
Washington	65	65	.500	13
Philadelphia	60	71	.458	18 1/2
New York	58	71	.450	19 1/2
Miami	49	80	.380	28 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	77	54	.588	_
Pittsburgh	76	54	.585	1/2
Cincinnati	74	58	.561	3 1/2
Milwaukee	57	73	.438	19 1/2
Chicago	55	76	.420	22

West Division

Los Angeles	77	54	.588	_
Arizona	67	63	.515	9 1/2
Colorado	62	71	.466	16
San Diego	59	72	.450	18
San Francisco	58	73	.443	19

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2013 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Navy Hill's Christian Devero is fouled by a Kamikaze defender during their game in the regular season of the 2013 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Navy Hill's Sid Quan goes for a tough shot against a Kamikaze player.

Fong's Fliptop's Emerson Feria pulls up for a lean-in jumper against Wushin's Angelo Fernando.

Wushin's Olan Tengco looks for a teammate to pass to as he is guarded by Fong's Fliptop's Wens Namelo.

RadioCom's Alex Standish drives against Maplas' Ralph Surla.

Kalayaan's Ezra Caro eludes his Ballaholics defenders for a reverse layup.

Adobo's Adrian Palacios unloads a jumper during their game against Maplas.

RadioCom's Perry Inos challenges the jumper of Wushin's Angelo Fernando.

Fong's Fliptop's Lester Lapuz goes for a fastbreak layup.

Fong's Fliptop's Toby Fleming tries to save the ball.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

CNMI gets ready for another AFC event

CNMI players jog around the Oleai Sports Complex Field before starting their training session yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI is gearing up for its fourth Asian Football Confederation tournament this year.

The Commonwealth players will be competing in the AFC U16 Qualifying Tournament in Wuhan, China, next month, battling teams from the host country, North Korea, and Myanmar. The CNMI, which participated in the

See CNMI on Page 26

DYS nips KFC for solo lead in U15

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

DYS nosed out KFC/Taco Bell, 38-36, in a battle of undefeated teams in U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Djay March Ong saved the day for DYS, making a buzzer-beating layup to lift his team to a 3-0 record and the solo lead in the six-team field. KFC slid to second place with its 2-1 mark.

Ong's game-winning basket came after Kobee Mendoza missed a jumper near the foul line. Ong was at the right place at the right time, as he picked up the leather after Mendoza's airball shot, and quickly went up for the shot. Besides hitting the crucial basket Ong also top-scored for DYS, firing 18 markers.

The DYS frontliner put his team on the board

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A referee calls a held ball as Ol'Aces and Rebelholics battle for the ball during the first quarter of their game in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Junior players to duel for Class C title

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kevin Park, seen here making a return in an earlier game in the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic, advanced to the finals of the Class C singles after beating A.J. Ortega in the semifinals last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Junior players and Community Badminton Club members Deether Edralin and Kevin Park arranged their title showdown in the Class C singles of the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic after defeating separate semis foes last Sunday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Edralin took the first finals seat in Class C after sweeping Celso Agui in their Final Four duel, 21-9, 21-11. The semis win was Edralin's second victory of the night, as he also played in a knockout match a few hours earlier just to make it to the Final Four of Class C. Edralin battled Panapa Peteru for the last semis ticket and also swept the latter, 21-11, 21-15, to march into the playoff round.

Park went through a different route to the finals, as he needed three games to eliminate the hard-fighting A.J. Ortega in the second semis collision of the night. Park prevailed in the opening game, 21-18, but failed to finish off his opponent early as Ortega recovered with a 21-19 victory. The deciding third set was another neck-and-neck fight with Park eking out a thrilling 22-20 win to make the Class C finale a family affair. The two CBC players will dispute the Class C championship this weekend.

In other results, the semis cast in the A and B singles divisions were completed over the weekend.

Punching the last ticket to the Final Four was Oh Im Bog, who had to beat Mario Diola in a knockout game last Sunday to advance to the next round. Oh and Diola finished the round-robin elimination with similar 2-2 records and with the last semis berth on the line, neither player seemed ready to give in, as the make-or-break match was stretched to three games. Diola moved one win away from making the cut in Class B when he won in the first game, 21-19, but Oh stole the

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